

CALIFORNIA FIRE WEATHER ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN



2008



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CALIFORNIA ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN 2008

I. INTRODUCTION

- a. The California Fire Weather Annual Operating Plan (AOP) constitutes an agreement between the California Wildfire Coordinating Group (CWCG) comprised of State, local government and Federal land management agencies charged with the protection of life, property and resources within the State of California from threat of wildfire; and the National Weather Service (NWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, charged with providing weather forecasts to the Nation for the protection of life and property.
- b. The AOP provides specific procedural and policy information regarding the delivery of meteorological services to the fire management community in California. It is the objective of the NWS and CWCG to ensure that quality of service is maintained through a mutual analysis of services provided. The NWS and CWCG work closely in all phases of the fire weather forecast and warning program to resolve concerns and avoid potential inconsistencies in products and services prior to delivery to fire agency customers. The goal of all agencies is to maximize firefighter and public safety through a coordinated delivery of consistent services.

Fire protection within California is made efficient by the statewide exchange among Federal, State, and local agencies of their responsibilities for the protection of certain lands. Non-federal wildland fire management agencies are by agreement protecting Federal lands, and therefore, require NWS fire weather forecasts and warnings. Due to this practice, it is essential that all fire protection agencies receive a coordinated fire weather and fire danger forecast.

- c. The general relationship between the NWS and the interagency fire management community is set forth in the following reference documents:

[Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services Among the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service of the U.S. Dept. of Interior, the Forest Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and the National Weather Service of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce \(National MOA or National Agreement\)](#) ;

[CWCG – NWS California Fire Weather Program Assessment Team Charter](#) ;

[National Weather Service NWSI 10-4: Fire Weather Services](#) ;

[2008 National Mobilization Guide](#) ;

[2008 California Mobilization Guide](#) ; and

[NWCG Glossary](#)

d. Participating agencies include the following:

The CWCG, comprised of the following Federal, State and local fire agencies:

- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service – Pacific Southwest Region (excluding Hawaii),
- United States Department of the Interior (USDI) Agencies, Bureau of Land Management – California State Offices
- National Park Service – Pacific West Region
- Bureau of Indian Affairs – Pacific Region
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Pacific Region
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)
- California Office of Emergency Services
- Contract City and County Fire Departments

The DOC/NOAA/National Weather Service offices serving California (Western Region); and representatives from independent city/county fire agencies.

II. CHANGES AND UPDATES FOR 2008

The Red Flag Warning criteria for the southern California desert areas have changed. This includes changes to meteorological criteria and the use of fuels information to justify Red Flag headlines.

Red Flag Warning criteria has been expanded in eastern Siskiyou and Modoc counties (CAZ284-285) in northern California.

The San Francisco Bay Area fire weather forecast zones, produced by the NWS office in Monterey, have changed. Please refer to the accompanying maps for details.

NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard will take their existing Los Angeles county zone (CAZ247) and split it into a San Fernando Valley zone (CAZ247) and a San Gabriel Valley zone (CAZ249). This zone change is expected to be implemented around September 1, 2008.

NWS offices in Eureka and Hanford have changed Fire Weather Forecast issuance times. Please see [Narrative Forecast Office Information](#) for details.

Redding and Riverside Predictive Service Units (PSUs) have unveiled a new addition to the 7-Day Significant Fire Potential graphical product. An orange color distinguishes “High Risk Days” that are due to a favorable burning environment which may result in significant growth on new or ongoing fires, from “High Risk Days” that are due to ignition triggers such as lightning. The red color will continue to be used to indicate “High Risk Days” due to the presence of an ignition trigger.

The Smoke Dispersion forecasts found on the Redding and Riverside PSU weather web pages have a new format, using maps from CANSAC MM5 model, to replace the text-based body of the forecast. See http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/daily_smoke/Smoke.html for an example.

Appendices [B](#) and [C](#) now include interactive matrices of NWS and PSU products, respectively, arranged by originating office. This allows for current examples of each product to be conveniently

accessed in the presence of an Internet connection. The static examples previously included have been omitted.

As a general guideline, NFDRS observations should be submitted through WIMS by 1330 LST/1430 LDT. There are, however, times when this goal is not reached. Therefore, coordination between fire agencies and the servicing National Weather Service office(s) is encouraged such that an agreement is reached on the time for a second daily WIMS scan. Thus, NFDRS observations can still be utilized by the NWS to provide trend forecasts.

RAWS stations included in [Appendix F](#) are now arranged by NWS area of responsibility. Additionally, several changes have been made regarding specific RAWS information.

As we head into fire season, Predictive Services at South Ops in Riverside will start the 2008 season with two meteorologists, versus four in previous seasons.

The scheduled time for the “as needed” morning North Ops coordination call will remain at 0845 PDT; the South Ops coordination call will remain at 0830 PDT.

III. SERVICE AREAS FOR NWS OFFICES AND PREDICTIVE SERVICE UNITS

Fire weather forecast services are provided by forecasters at NWS offices and in PSUs at the Redding and Riverside GACC. All Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches, all spot forecasts for wildfires, and all forecasts used to develop National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) indices, are issued by the NWS. Both groups provide spot forecasts for prescribed burns, narrative and/or graphical forecasts for planning purposes, and have trained Incident Meteorologists (NWS) or Technical Specialists (PSU). Details on these services are contained in the plan.

A. NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) Serving California (Bold indicates shared counties.)

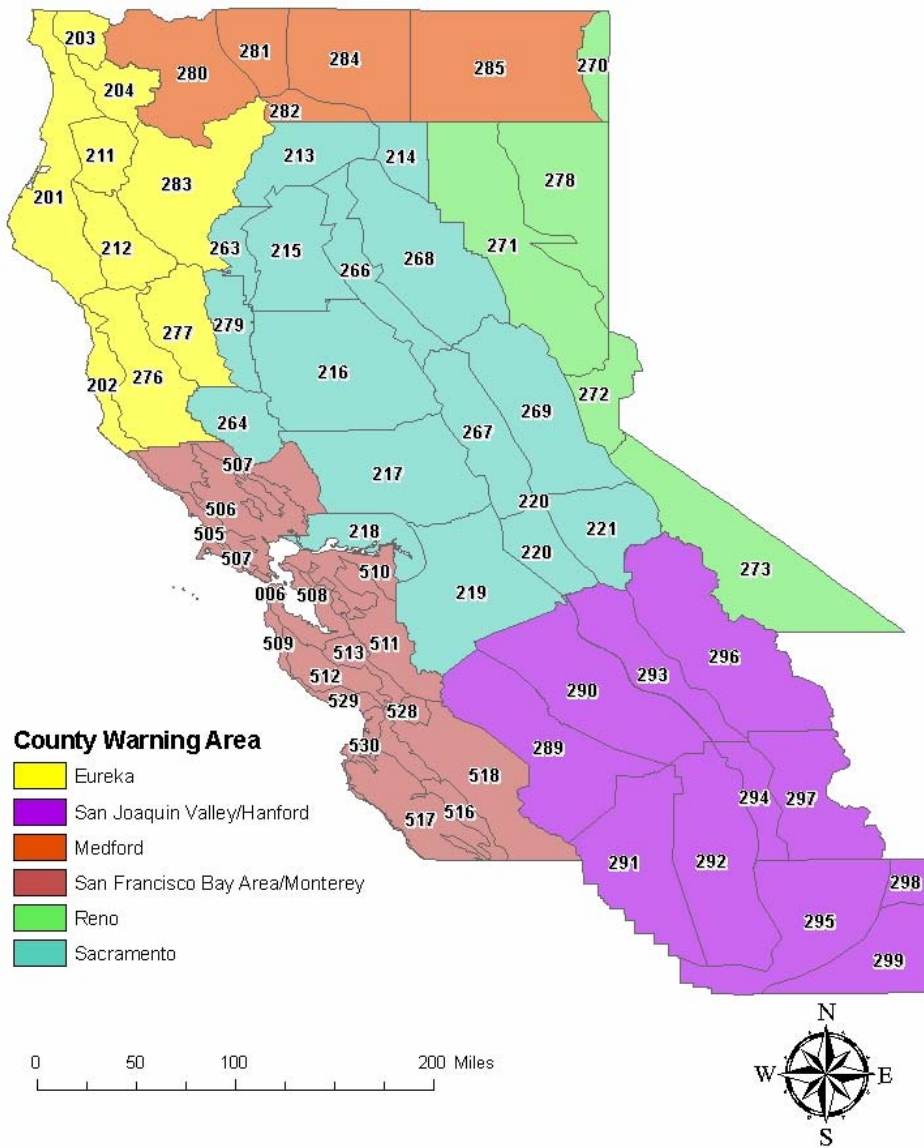
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE	COUNTIES (including local fire depts.) WITHIN THE FIRE WEATHER FORECAST DISTRICT	FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES USING THE FIRE WEATHER FORECASTS
Medford WFO http://www.weather.gov/medford	Siskiyou, Modoc	CALFIRE: Siskiyou and Lassen-Modoc Units USFS: Klamath, Modoc, North Shasta Trinity NFs NPS: Lava Beds NM USFWS: Lower Klamath Basin Refuge BLM: North NorCal BLM
Eureka WFO http://www.weather.gov/eureka	Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity, Mendocino	CALFIRE: Humboldt-Del Norte and Mendocino Units USFS: Six Rivers, West Shasta-Trinity, West Mendocino NFs BLM: West NorCal BLM NPS: Redwood NP BIA: Hoopa Valley Tribe

<p>Sacramento WFO http://www.weather.gov/sacramento</p>	<p>Shasta, Tehama, Glenn, Colusa, Butte, Yuba, Sutter, Lake, Yolo, Sacramento, Calaveras, Amador, San Joaquin, Solano, Stanislaus</p> <p>Western Portions of: Plumas, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Tuolumne, Alpine</p>	<p><u>USFS</u>: South Shasta-Trinity, East Mendocino, West Lassen, West Plumas, West Tahoe, El Dorado, Stanislaus NFs <u>BLM</u>: South NorCal and North CenCal BLM <u>NPS</u>: Lassen NP, Whiskeytown NRA <u>USFWS</u>: North Central Valley Refuges <u>CALFIRE</u>: Shasta-Trinity, West Lassen-Modoc, Butte, East Sonoma-Lake-Napa, Tehama-Glenn, Amador-El Dorado, Tuolumne-Calaveras and West Nevada-Yuba-Placer Units</p>
<p>Reno WFO http://www.weather.gov/reno</p>	<p>Lassen, Mono</p> <p>Eastern Portions of: Modoc, Plumas, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Alpine</p>	<p><u>BLM</u>: NE and East NorCal and Northeast CenCal BLM <u>USFS</u>: East Lassen, East Plumas, East Tahoe, Humboldt-Toiyabe, Northern Inyo NFs and Tahoe Basin Management Unit (USFS) <u>CALFIRE</u>: East Lassen-Modoc Unit and East Nevada-Yuba-Placer Units</p>
<p>San Francisco Bay Area/Monterey WFO http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/</p>	<p>Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito</p>	<p><u>BLM</u>: Hollister BLM (Fort Ord) <u>CALFIRE</u>: West Sonoma-Lake-Napa, San Benito-Monterey, Santa Clara and San Mateo-Santa Cruz Units <u>NPS</u>: Point Reyes NRA, Golden Gate NRA, Pinnacles NM <u>USFS</u>: North Los Padres NF <u>DOD</u>: Ft Hunter-Liggett <u>California State Parks</u></p>
<p>Hanford WFO http://www.weather.gov/hanford</p>	<p>Mariposa, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Kern</p> <p>SE Tuolumne in Yosemite NP</p>	<p><u>NPS</u>: Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings NP <u>BLM</u>: Western CenCal BLM <u>USFWS</u>: South Central Valley Refuges <u>USFS</u>: Sierra and Sequoia NFs <u>CALFIRE</u>: Tulare, Madera-Mariposa-Merced and Fresno-Kings Units</p>
<p>Los Angeles/Oxnard WFO http://www.weather.gov/losangeles</p>	<p>San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles</p>	<p><u>CALFIRE</u>: San Luis Obispo Unit <u>NPS</u>: Channel Islands NP, Santa Monica Mountains NRA <u>DOD</u>: Vandenberg AFB <u>USFS</u>: Angeles and South Los Padres NF <u>USFWS</u>: Southern California Refuges</p>
<p>San Diego WFO http://www.weather.gov/sandiego</p>	<p>Orange, San Diego</p> <p>SW San Bernardino Western Riverside</p>	<p><u>USFS</u>: San Bernardino and Cleveland NFs <u>CALFIRE</u>: San Diego, SW San Bernardino and Western Riverside Units <u>BLM</u>: South Coast BLM <u>USFWS</u>: Southern California Refuges <u>DOD</u>: Camp Pendleton & Miramar <u>BIA</u>: Southern California Agency</p>

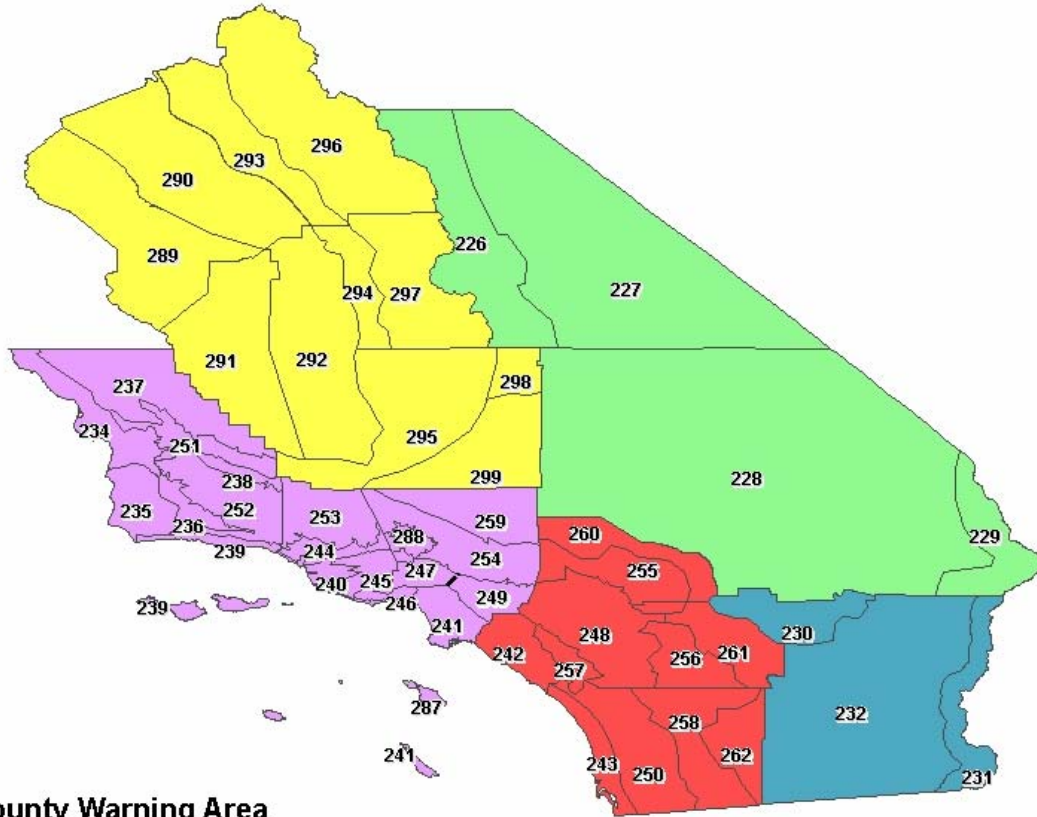
Phoenix WFO http://www.weather.gov/phoenix	Imperial Eastern Riverside	<u>BLM</u> : California Desert BLM <u>USFWS</u> : Southern California Refuges <u>NPS</u> : Joshua Tree NP
Las Vegas WFO http://www.weather.gov/lasvegas	Inyo San Bernardino (except SW corner)	<u>CALFIRE</u> : Northern San Bernardino and Eastern Riverside Units <u>USFS</u> : Southern Inyo NF <u>BLM</u> : California Desert BLM <u>NPS</u> : Mojave National Preserve, Death Valley NP <u>USFWS</u> : Southern California Refuges

B. National Weather Service Fire Weather Zones –

Northern California Fire Weather Zones



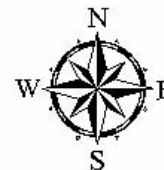
Southern California Fire Weather Zones



County Warning Area

- San Joaquin Valley/Hanford
- Los Angeles/Oxnard
- Phoenix
- San Diego
- Las Vegas

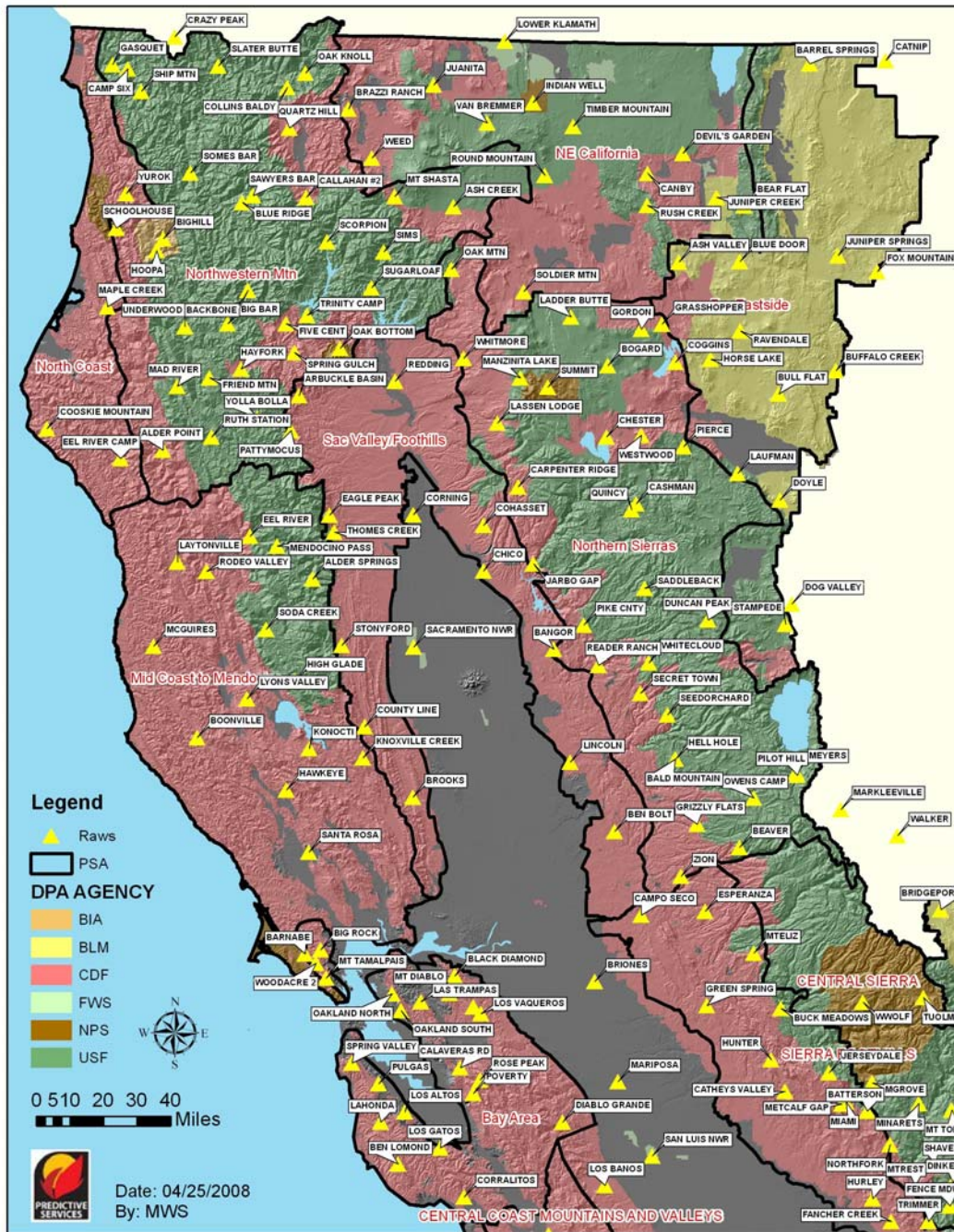
NOTE: NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard will take their existing Los Angeles County Zone (CAZ247) and split it into a San Fernando Valley Zone (CAZ247) and a San Gabriel Valley Zone (CAZ249). This zone change is expected to be implemented around September 1, 2008.

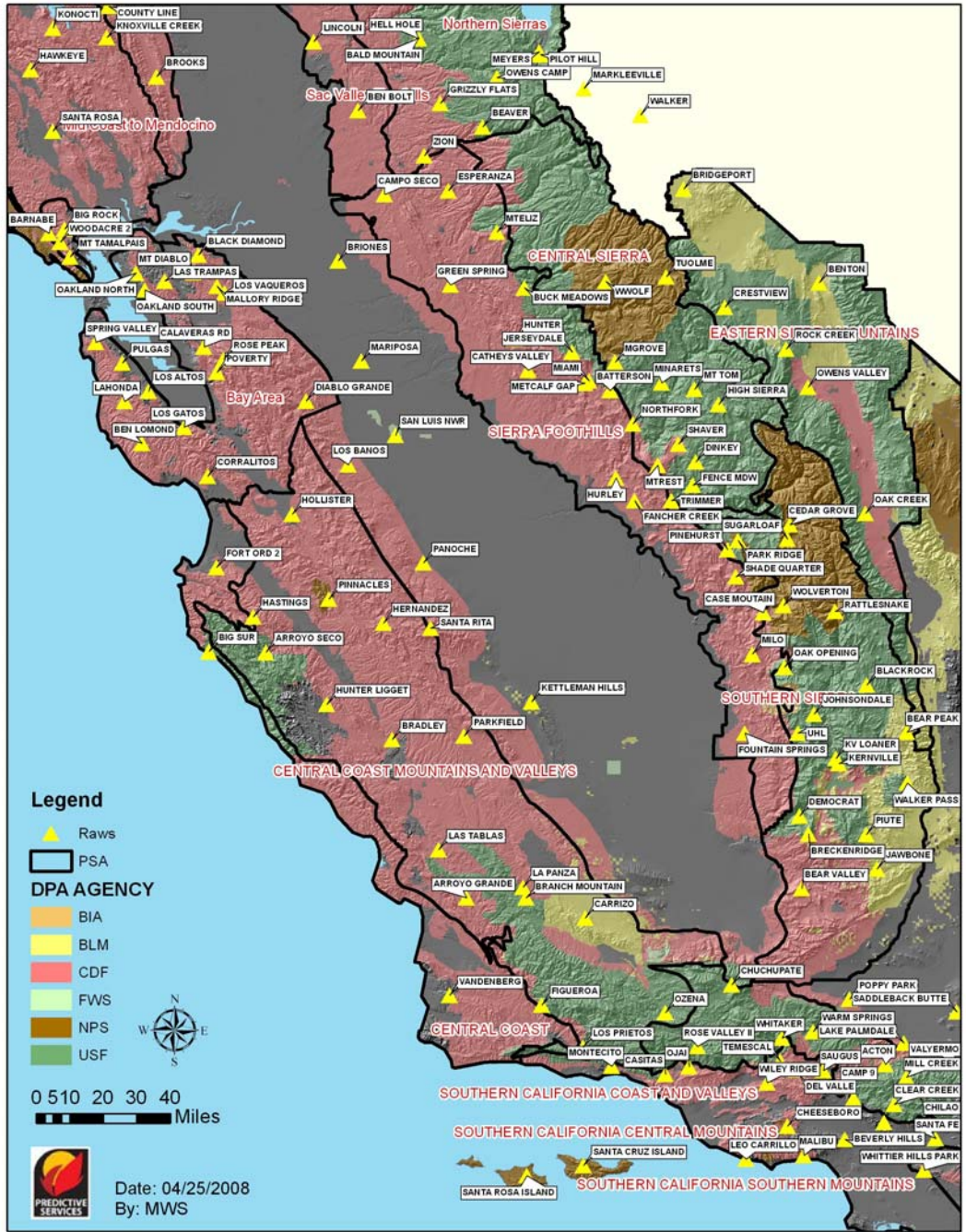


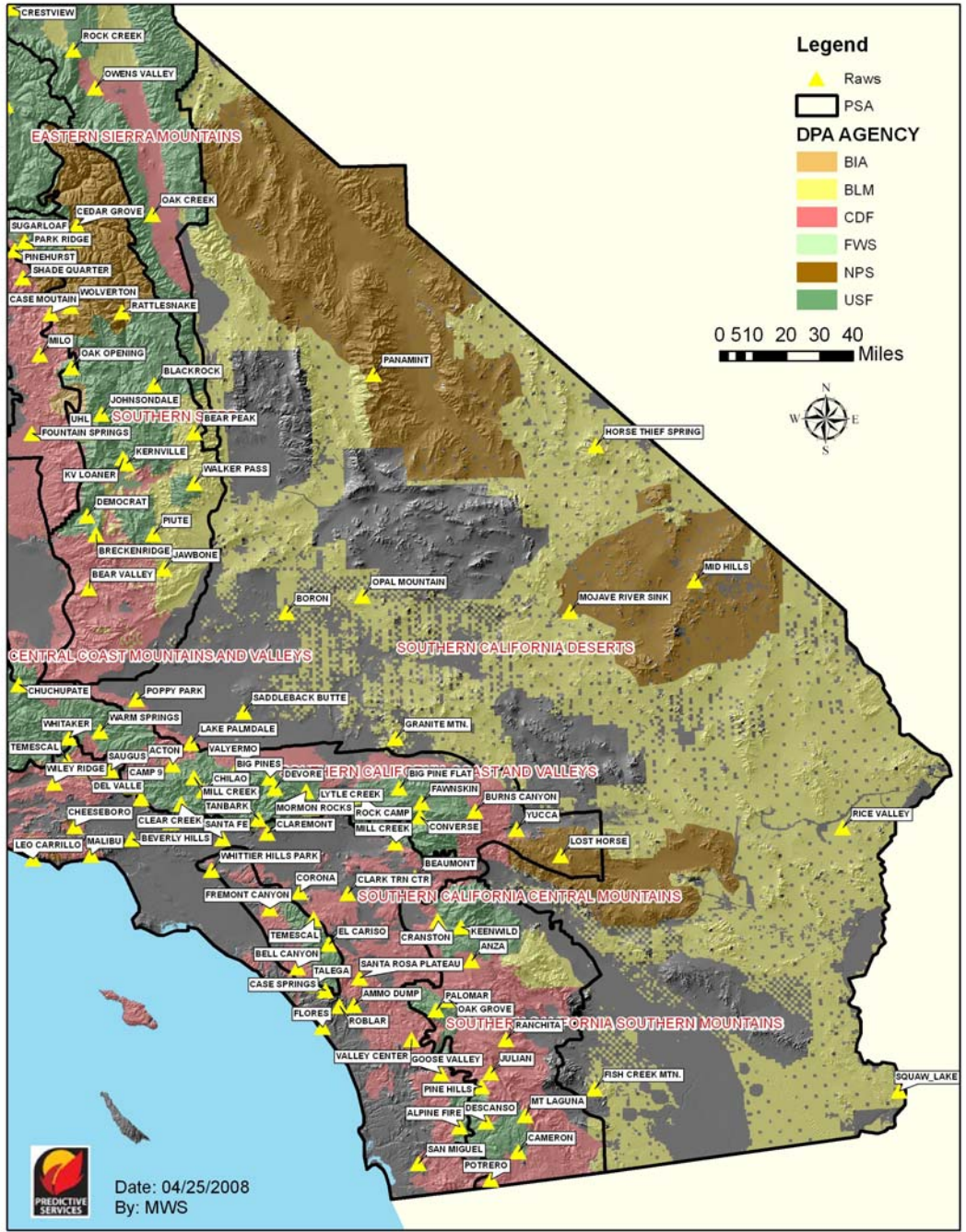
C. Predictive Services Units (PSU) Serving California

Predictive Service Unit	Predictive Service Areas within this PSU
<p>Redding http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/index.htm</p>	<p>North Coast PSA Mid Coast to Mendocino PSA Bay Area PSA Northwestern Mtn PSA Sacramento Valley / Foothills PSA NE California PSA Northern Sierra PSA Eastside PSA</p>
<p>Riverside http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/index.htm</p>	<p>Eastern Sierra Mountains and Valleys PSA Central Sierra PSA Southern Sierra PSA Sierra Foothills PSA Central Coast Mountains and Valleys PSA Central Coast PSA Southern California Central Mountains PSA Southern California Coast and Valleys PSA Southern California Southern Mountains PSA Southern California Deserts PSA</p>

D. Predictive Service Area Maps -







IV. NWS SERVICES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The NWS supplies meteorological services as outlined in the National Agreement, Section 5.0, (A) (1) (a-j), including NFDRS trend forecasts, and informs CWCG of policies, guidelines, and instructions that may impact the provision of fire weather services in California. NWS offices providing fire weather services to California will ensure that all fire weather forecasts are prepared and issued by fire weather-qualified forecasters as specified in this AOP. Information on current operational NWS fire weather forecast products follows. Significant changes to these forecast services or deployment of new operational forecast services will be coordinated through the CWCG (Reference NWSI 10-403). Any non-operational forecast products will be clearly labeled as “Experimental” or “Prototype”.

A. Narrative Forecast Office Information

Weather Forecast Office	High Season Narrative Forecasts	Morning Narrative Forecast	Afternoon Narrative Forecast	Low Season Narrative Forecasts	NWS Forecast Zones
Extreme Northern California – Medford	<i>Usually by June 1 to November 1 #</i>	7:30 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Daily 3:30 p.m.	280-282, 284, 285
Northwest California – Eureka	<i>Usually by June 1 to November 1 #</i>	7:30 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Daily 3:30 p.m.	201-204, 211, 212, 276,277, 283
North Central California – Sacramento	<i>Usually by June 1 to November 1 #</i>	7:30 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Daily 3:30 p.m.	213-221, 263, 264, 266-269
Extreme Eastern California – Reno	<i>Usually by June 1 to November 1 #</i>	7:30 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Daily 7:00 a.m.	270-273, 278
Central Coast California – San Francisco Bay Area/Monterey	<i>Usually by June 1 to November 1 #</i>	7:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	Daily 3:00 p.m.	006, 505-513, 516-518, 528-530
Central California Interior – San Joaquin Valley/Hanford	<i>Usually May 15 to November 15 #</i>	7:00 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Daily 3:00 p.m. PST or 3:30 p.m. PDT	289-299
Southwest California – Los Angeles/Oxnard	<i>Usually May 15 to December 1 #</i>	9:30 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	M-F 3:30 p.m. also M at 9:30 a.m. *	234-241, 244-247, 252-254, 259, 288
Extreme Southwest California – San Diego		7:00 a.m.	2:30 p.m.	Daily 7:00 a.m.	242, 243, 248, 250, 255-258 260-262
Southeast California – Phoenix		7:30 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Daily 7:30 a.m.	230-232
Southeast California – Las Vegas		7:00 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Daily 7:00 a.m.	226-229

* excludes Federal holidays

customer coordinated depending on weather/fuels; two weeks notice preferred for NWS WFOs

B. California NWS Fire Weather Planning Forecasts

These provide general, zone-based information for daily preparedness and planning purposes. They are not to be used in lieu of spot forecasts.

Issuance times – See the [Individual Forecast Office Information table](#) for specific issuance times for each NWS office. The beginning and ending dates of fire season forecasts vary by year, but are linked for North Ops and South Ops, and are based on customer feedback.

Update/Corrected forecasts – Forecasts will be updated or corrected upon issuance of a Fire Weather Watch or a Red Flag Warning, when the current forecast does not adequately describe significant weather expected in the future, or when typographical/format errors prevent proper interpretation of the forecast.

Access – Forecasts are available via WIMS, the California Fire Weather Page (<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/cafw/>), NWS office web sites and Predictive Services web sites. NWS office web pages may be linked from the [Individual Forecast Information Table](#). Links to forecasts and NWS web pages also can be found on the National Fire Weather Page at: <http://fire.boi.noaa.gov/>

Content and Format – Forecasts will conform to the national standard narrative format, per NWS Directive 10-401. Morning forecasts will focus on the following 36 hours and afternoon forecasts on the following 48 hours, with general extended outlooks in both cases out to at least five days. Forecasts are subdivided into meteorologically and topographically similar forecast areas called zones.

Each forecast will begin with pertinent headlines and a **non-technical** weather discussion. Headlines are required for Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches. Headlines are recommended for other situations that affect fire danger without meeting Red Flag criteria. Discussions should normally be no more than 8 lines in length. A more detailed, technical weather discussion is available in the [Area Forecast Discussion \(AFD\)](#) product which can be found on each forecast office website.

Short-term forecast for the first 36 or 48 hours - Short-term forecasts are highly detailed and emphasize information which is needed for initial attack and day-to-day fire management. Each forecast zone or zone grouping contains the following elements, listed in the order they will appear:

- Headline(s) as appropriate
- Sky/Weather
- Temperature
- Relative Humidity
- Wind – 20-foot, 10 minute average RAWS standard (slope/valley and ridgetop, as appropriate)
- Chance of Wetting Rain (CWR)
- Lightning Activity Level (LAL)

Forecasts may include the following optional elements based on local customer requirements:

- Haines Index
- Mixing Level or Mixing Height
- Marine Layer
- Transport Wind

- 10,000-foot Wind
- Ventilation Category (or numeric value)
- 24-hour Trends (of temperature and relative humidity)

Descriptions of forecast parameters can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Extended Outlook to at least day five - Beyond 36-48 hours, the forecasts are used for resource planning. They contain general guidance information, keying on significant changes in temperature, humidity, wind, or weather needed for decision-making purposes.

Examples of NWS Fire Weather Planning Forecasts (FWF) can be found in [Appendix B](#) by clicking on the FWF header under the desired issuing office.

C. NWS Spot Forecasts

Spot forecasts are site-specific forecast products issued for wildfires, wildland fire use (WFU) events, prescribed burns, search and rescue operations, aerial spraying, etc., and are available upon request at any time. Spot forecasts are available to any federal, state, or municipal agency as described in [NWSI 10-401](#). When smoke dispersion/smoke management is a concern, prescribed burn spot forecasts can be requested from the PSU at Redding or Riverside.

Spot forecast information is highly perishable. Using up-to-date spot forecasts is important. With this in mind, the NWS expects that the requested issuance time for spot forecasts will be within a few hours of when the requestor will begin using the forecast. If a significant delay occurs – particularly if there is anything in the forecast or in observed conditions which raises concern – it is recommended that the requestor call the NWS office and discuss the forecast with a meteorologist. It is critical to have a working phone number from the requesting agency so they can be contacted.

Issuance Times - Priority for the issuance and desired lead time is as follows:

Wildfire or All-Hazards spots - Forecasts for the original issuance or unscheduled updates will be made available as soon as possible and no longer than one hour after the request is received, unless a longer lead time is negotiated. Requests for scheduled updates for ongoing spots (such as for a shift briefing) should be submitted to the issuing office with as much lead time as possible and at least two hours before needed.

Prescribed burn or WFU spots - Forecasts for original issuances or scheduled updates should be made with as much lead time as possible, with requests made in the afternoon or evening for delivery of a prescribed burn spot the next morning being the recommended lead time.

Forecasts for unscheduled updates for prescribed burn spots, either due to a specific request based on weather at the site or due to monitoring invoked by the phrase, “Request Priority Monitoring” or similar in the remarks section of the spot forecast request, will be issued as soon as possible and no longer than two hours after it is recognized that an update is desirable.

All remaining spot forecasts - Forecasts for original issuances and routine or unscheduled updates will be issued as soon as possible, as negotiated with the requestor.

Updated Forecasts - Site-specific forecasts are considered one-time requests and are not routinely

updated. However, if determined necessary, updates will be done within 24 hours of requested issuance time of the spot if the following occurs:

- Representative observations are available, the meteorologist has been made aware that monitoring is desired, and the meteorologist deems the current forecast does not adequately represent current or expected weather conditions which might affect the burn
- OR -
- The meteorologist is specifically asked for a verbal or written update, such as when forecast conditions appear unrepresentative of the actual weather conditions.

Corrections - The spot forecast will be corrected when a typographical or format error is detected that prevents correct interpretation of the forecast. Corrections should be delivered to users in the same manner as the original spot forecast when possible.

Access – Use of the Internet is the standard for requesting and retrieving NWS spot forecasts and should be used when available. Spot forecasts can be accessed from the California Fire Weather Web page (<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/cafw/>), all NWS office fire weather web pages and PSU web pages. When Internet access is not available, spot forecasts may be requested and disseminated via phone or fax using the backup spot forecast request form found in [Appendix E](#). Since the fax is a backup means of requesting a Spot forecast, it is important that the requester follow up the fax with a phone call to the responsible NWS office to ensure that the fax was received and is readable.

At or before the time of a spot request, the requesting agency should provide information about the location, topography, fuel type(s), elevation(s), size, ignition time, and a contact name(s) and telephone number(s) of the responsible land management personnel. Also, quality representative observation(s) at, or near, the site of the planned prescribed burn, or wildfire, should be available to the responsible WFO along with the request for a spot forecast(s). Internet-based spot request programs and the backup form both provide blocks to fill in these data.

Upon completion, spot forecasts are posted to the appropriate Fire Weather Page of the NWS forecast office web site that received the request. NWS web sites may be linked from the [Individual Forecast Information Table](#).

Content and Format – Exact content depends on user request. Headlines are always included if a Red Flag Warning or Fire Weather Watch is in effect at the time of issuance.

The forecast period is based on user request and will contain up to three periods, such as “TODAY”, “TONIGHT”, and “FRIDAY.” If requested, and if enough weather information is received to make it feasible, a more specific first period such as “AT 11 A.M. IGNITION” may be used. In these cases, the meteorologist will not just forecast for the planned ignition time, but will include significant changes expected in the forecast parameters for the rest of the usual period, e.g., 11 AM temperature and the expected daytime maximum temperature.

When requested, an outlook for a longer duration will be appended, such as “OUTLOOK FOR WEDNESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY” for a spot requested on Monday.

The most commonly requested forecast parameters are the following:

Discussion

Sky/Weather (including chance of rain)

Maximum/Minimum Temperature

Maximum/Minimum Relative Humidity

20-Foot Winds

Normally, 20-foot winds will be provided in spot forecasts, unless otherwise requested.

Other elements, such as transport winds, mixing depth, LAL, etc., may be included upon request.

When information for several days in the future, rather than a near-term forecast, is needed, the routine planning forecast should be consulted. The interactive “activity planner,” available from all NWS office web pages, can also be used for longer term planning. If it is determined that a longer-range spot forecast is desired, a spot for a general weather outlook for specific days may be requested.

The basic format of a Fire Weather Spot (FWS) request can be found in [Appendix B](#) by clicking on the FWS header under the desired issuing office.

Spot Forecast Feedback Requirement - Agencies will follow-up requests for spot forecasts with a telephone call to the appropriate NWS forecast office to ensure receipt of the request. It is critical that agencies have accurate NWS phone number information for this purpose. Requesting agencies are also highly encouraged to provide fire-line weather observations for the validation of weather forecast accuracy. For further explanation of the feedback process, see [Fire Weather Observations](#).

FARSITE Data

All NWS Western Region Offices will offer automatic 7-day FARSITE (FIREPRO or FSPRO) weather data support with all wildfire spot forecast issuances. For prescribed burn spot forecasts, FARSITE data will be produced at the request of the agency. Please call the NWS office issuing the prescribed burn forecast directly to request this service, or place the request in the “Remarks Section” of the spot request form (“point and click” FARSITE forecasts, where the user can directly request data from the NWS office Fire Weather Page, are expected to be implemented later during 2008). All FARSITE data will be available from the internet via the appropriate NWS office Fire Weather Page. Check for a “FARSITE Forecasts” button near the Spot Forecast Request link. The data will be in simple ASCII format. Examples of the two FARSITE support outputs (“weather” and “wind”) are below. Questions can be addressed by contacting your servicing NWS office.

Weather:

ENGLISH

03 06 12 0700 1600 30 54 59 30 5620

03 07 63 0700 1600 27 44 84 63 5620

03 08 14 0700 1600 23 43 81 47 5620

etc., through seven days

Wind:

ENGLISH

03 06 0000 11 200 79
03 06 0300 12 200 84
03 06 0600 14 200 95
03 06 0900 15 200 95
03 06 1200 15 200 95
03 06 1500 14 200 90
03 06 1800 13 210 80
03 06 2100 10 220 80
03 07 0000 09 210 80
03 07 0300 08 210 80
03 07 0600 11 240 80
03 07 0900 11 260 80
03 07 1200 09 260 80
03 07 1500 09 270 77
03 07 1800 10 290 70
03 07 2100 11 320 70
etc., through seven days

D. Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings

NWS offices issue Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings for critical fire weather patterns that contribute to extreme fire danger and/or fire behavior.

A **Fire Weather Watch** is used to alert agencies to the high potential for development of a Red Flag event in the 12-72 hour time frame. The Watch may be issued for all or selected portions of a fire weather zone or zones. A watch may be issued in the first 12 hour time period only for an expected dry thunderstorm event.

A **Red Flag Warning** (RFW) is used to inform agencies of the imminent or actual occurrence of Red Flag conditions. A Red Flag Warning is issued when there is high confidence that Red Flag criteria will be met within the next 24 hours or if those criteria are already being met.

Criteria for Red Flag Warnings/Fire Weather Watches

Dry Lightning - A lightning event that is not accompanied by enough precipitation to significantly wet fuels that have been identified as critically dry. Significant precipitation is defined as ranging from .05 inches for grass or brush fuels to .15 inches for closed-canopy timber/heavy fuels.

Watches and warnings will be issued when dry lightning is expected to be widespread. Isolated events or events of short duration (i.e., events which start dry but become wet within an hour or two) do not need warnings but will be headlined in the forecast.

Wind and Humidity - Wind and humidity criteria are geared toward those situations which may result in rapid spread of wildfires. Because topography and vegetation play a big role in this, several sets of criteria are used across California. Where possible, issuance criteria have been meshed with those

used in adjacent states to meet the needs of agencies whose jurisdictions cross state lines. Criteria are listed in the [Wind/Humidity Table](#).

Red Flag Warning/Fire Weather Watches in discussions and headlines - In the discussion portion of the Fire Weather Planning Forecast, NWS offices will mention critical weather patterns that might lead to conditions approaching or exceeding Red Flag criteria through the extended forecast. This will assist fire agencies in their allocating and moving resources in anticipation of increased fire activity. Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings will be headlined in spot forecasts, the fire weather narrative, and appropriate zone sections within the fire weather planning forecast. The headline will be in the same format as on the RFW product itself.

Collaboration with agencies - Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings normally will be issued only after conferring with the affected agencies or a representative subset of affected agencies, to include the Redding and Riverside PSUs. This will allow for input on fuel conditions and local concerns. For the southern California deserts, fuels information to support the issuance of a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning may be garnered from appropriate PSU products, as described [further](#). However, the ultimate responsibility for the issuance of a watch/warning rests with the NWS forecaster.

Red Flag warning/fire weather watch access - If issuance of a Red Flag Warning or Fire Weather Watch requires an update of the general forecast, the NWS office will verbally notify the Redding and Riverside PSUs as soon as possible. During non-duty hours for the PSUs, contact the GACC Coordinator on Duty (COD).

Wind/Humidity Table

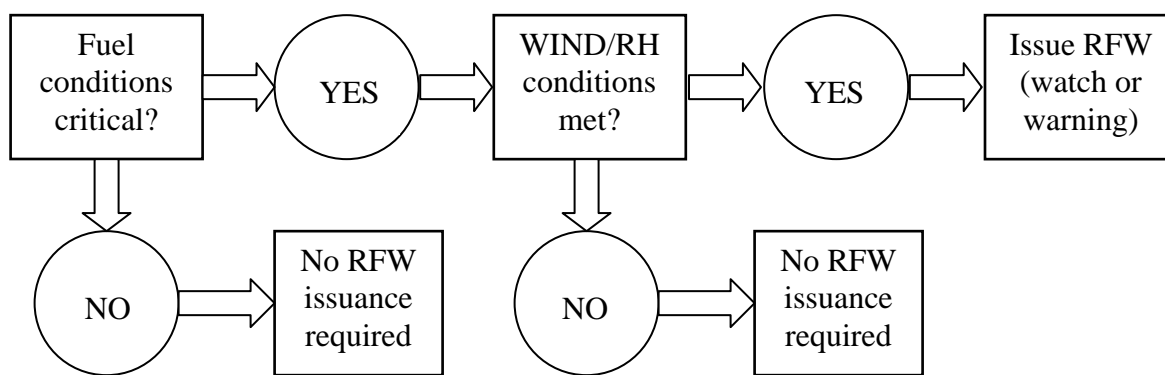
Area Description	NWS Fire Weather Zones	Criteria	
Southern California desert area excluding the Lower Colorado River Valley	226-228, 230, 232, 260-262	Relative Humidity \leq 15% and wind gusts \geq 35 mph for 6 hours or more, assuming fuel conditions are critical. For qualifying fuels information, refer to RFW Criteria and Decision Matrix for Southern California Deserts .	
Lower Colorado River Valley	229,231	Relative Humidity \leq 15% with sustained winds \geq 20 mph or wind gusts \geq 35 mph for 3 hours or more.	
Antelope Valley and SE Kern County Deserts	298, 299, 259	Relative Humidity \leq 15% and sustained (20-foot) winds \geq 25 mph for a duration of 8 hours or more.	
Southern California from mountains westward	234-258, 288-297	Either Relative Humidity \leq 15%, with <u>sustained</u> winds \geq 25 mph and/or <u>frequent gusts</u> \geq 35 mph (duration \geq 6 hours).	Or Relative Humidity \leq 10% (duration \geq 10 hours) regardless of wind.
Northern California East of Cascade/Sierra Crest and Western Great Basin including the Modoc Plateau	214, 270-273, 278, 284, 285	Three hours of wind gusts \geq 30 mph and Relative Humidity \leq 15% (\leq 20% Tahoe Mgmt Basin).	Or Three hours of wind gusts \geq 20 mph and Relative Humidity \leq 10% for Fire Weather Zones 284-285 only.

Northern California West of the Cascade/Sierra Crest	006, 201-204, 211-213, 215-221, 263, 264, 266-269, 276, 277, 280-282, 505-513, 516-518, 528-530	Refer to Wind/RH RFW Decision Matrix for Northern California West of the Cascade/Sierra Crest .
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RFW Criteria and Decision Matrix for Southern California Deserts

Issuance of Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings for certain Southern California zones east of the Coastal Mountains are predicated upon fuel conditions being considered critical enough to create strong potential for large fire growth.

In simplified flow chart form, the RFW decision process is as follows:



Qualifying Fuels Information

In order to determine whether fuel conditions warrant Red Flag considerations for a given day, NWS WFOs whose areas of responsibility include parts of Southern California will refer to the “*Southern California 7-Day Significant Fire Potential*” matrix produced by the South Ops PSU (http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/outlooks/Fire_Potential.html).

When the PSU designates a fuel condition of “Very Dry” (brown) for any Predictive Service Area (PSA), the “fuels switch” will be considered “on” for that day. An RFW is NOT required for any PSA designated as “Moist” (green) or “Dry” (yellow).

Occasionally, especially during dry Winters and the Spring curing season, fuel moisture over the high deserts may be quite low without initiating serious concerns about the potential for large fire growth. Reasons include sparse loading due to fuels being discontinuous or the existence of dry fine fuels while larger live fuels remain relatively green. In such cases, the South Ops PSU will coordinate with affected WFOs to clearly communicate the fuel conditions, and inform them there will be no need for RFW issuance despite a “very dry” rating on the PSA matrix.

Wind/RH RFW Decision Matrix for Northern California West of the Cascade/Sierra Crest

- Matrix assumes daytime 10-hour fuel moisture (NFDRS obs time) is $\leq 6\%$, annual grasses have cured, and no wetting rain (greater than 0.10 inch) has fallen in the past 24 hours.
- The sustained wind refers to the standard 20-foot, 10 minute average fire weather wind speed.
- The wind event should be expected to last for at least 8 hours to qualify for a Red Flag warning. [This guidance was developed for foehn wind events, which normally exceed 12 hours duration, and may last as much as 3-5 days].
- a 'W' in the matrix indicates that the forecaster should consider a warning.

Relative Humidity	Sustained Wind 6-11 mph	Sustained Wind 12-20 mph	Sustained Wind 21-29 mph	Sustained Wind 30+ mph
Daytime Minimum RH 29-42% and/or Nighttime Maximum RH 60-80%				W
Daytime Minimum RH 19-28% and/or Nighttime Maximum RH 46-60%			W	W
Daytime Minimum RH 9-18% and/or Nighttime Maximum RH 31-45%		W	W	W
Daytime Minimum RH < 9% and/or Nighttime Maximum RH < 31%	W	W	W	W

Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches will remain in effect through the expiration time noted in the forecast, or until canceled or upgraded

Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches are available via WIMS, from the California Fire Weather web page (<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/cafw/>) and the web site of the issuing NWS office. Links to all forecasts and NWS office web pages can be found on the National Fire Weather Page at <http://fire.boi.noaa.gov/>.

Red Flag Warning/Fire Weather Watch format and contents - A short message (RFW) will be used for issuing, updating, and canceling all Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings. A recent example can be found in [Appendix B](#) by clicking on the RFW header under the desired issuing office. The product will include:

- Headline including description of watch/warning, description of valid location, and time period for which watch/warning is valid.
- Short discussion detailing causes and nature of the event.

Red Flag Warning/Fire Weather Watch verification –

[NWS Verification Directive NWSI 10-1601](#) and [Western Region Supplement 4-2005](#)

By January 15th of each year, every NWS office issues a fire weather annual summary for the previous season that includes Fire Weather Watch and Red Flag Warning verification. These reports

are available from the fire weather web page of each NWS office.

Agency feedback on the accuracy and quality of Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings is strongly encouraged.

E. National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) Forecasts

The NWS provides weather forecasts for parameters that permit the NFDRS software to predict the next day's fire danger indices *that the land management agencies utilize for fire management decision support.*

Criteria for Issuance – NWS will issue daily forecasts for use by the NFDRS during periods determined in consultation with land management agencies. Dates during which these forecasts are needed vary by year and by office.

A NWS goal is to have the NFDRS trend or point forecasts available to the agencies by 1500 LST/1600 LDT/2300 Z. *The goal of the land management agencies is to provide quality observations in a timeframe that provides the NWS an hour to review the NFDRS observations and publish the forecasts. In order to meet these goals, the daily NFDRS fire weather observations must be made available to the NWS from WIMS in collectives by 1400 LST/1500 LDT/2200 Z.* NFDRS stations that do not have valid observations available in WIMS on time will not have next day fire danger indices available.

The observation data that the land management agencies utilize for NFDRS outputs is typically available to the agencies between 1300 LST/1400 LDT/ 2100 Z and 1340 LST/1440 LDT/2140 Z. To facilitate timely delivery of the NFDRS observations to the NWS, the agencies must strive to have their local quality control and data entry completed in WIMS by 1340 LST/1440 LDT/2140 Z. Collectives are run at 10-minute intervals beginning at 1330 LST/1430 LDT/ 2130 Z, with the last collective run at 1410 LST/1510 LDT/2210 Z. Depending on local needs, these times can vary. *It is important that land management agencies and their supporting WFO discuss and mutually agree to the timeframes that best meet their collective needs.*

Users who fail to meet the last collective, and want an NFDRS forecast for the following day, must coordinate with their local WFO to try and arrange for an updated forecast. Solutions to on-going timeliness problems should be coordinated between the local user, WFO and GACC Predictive Services Unit.

NWS forecasters should contact the appropriate GACC Predictive Services Unit or the USFS Fire & Aviation Management Helpdesk in Boise, ID (1-800-253-5559) for assistance in dealing with WIMS issues.

Content and Format – Complies with NWSI 10-401 and is outlined in [Appendix B4](#) for reference.

Procedures – For every NFDRS observation received from WIMS at the 1400 LST (1500 LDT) collective, forecast weather parameters for 1300 LST (1400 LDT) the next day will be produced. This will occur through zone trend, station trend, or station specific (point) forecasts. Regardless of the forecast methodology, forecast values for NFDRS stations should not unduly deviate from historical possibility for those stations. For this reason, zone and station trend forecasts are usually favored

over station specific (point) forecasts.

10-Hour Fuel Moisture Trends – The U.S Forest Service Region 5 uses the Sale Activity Level (SAL) Program to regulate timber sales and other contracts on public lands. SAL uses forecast 10-minute wind speed trend and forecast 10-hour fuel stick trend. As a result, a 10-hour fuel moisture trend should be provided by the NWS. In order for this to occur, the NFDRS trend forecast should make no entries in the trend forecast for maximum and minimum temperature or maximum and minimum relative humidity, but instead it should include a 10-hour fuel moisture trend.

If no entry is made for the forecast 10-hour fuel moisture trend, WIMS will use computed 10-hour fuel moisture from a algorithm and will determine a trend. **Problems arise** with this approach since the trend varies from station to station and the computed value is lower than what would be provided from a weighed stick. This results in a higher SAL number and more restrictions.

The Project Activity Level (PAL), which uses forecast Energy Release Component and Ignition Component, will replace SAL in Region 5 contracts in the future. PAL does not require a 10-hour fuel stick trend.

NFDRS Collective and Bulletin Times (local variations allowed depending on need)

WFO	GATEWAY Routine	Header	1st OBS Collective	2nd OBS Collective	Forecast Observations	GATEWAY Routine	Header	Observed NFDRS Indices Bulletin #1	Observed NFDRS Indices Bulletin #2	Forecast NFDRS Indices Bulletin
Eureka	SENDOBS	SHUS66	2130	2215	2245	SENDNFDR	FNUS46	2130	2205	2245
Hanford	SENDOBS	SHUS66	2130	2205	2245	SENDNFDR	FNUS46	2145		2245
Las Vegas	SENDOBS	SHUS65	2145	2145	2245	SENDNFDR	FNUS45	2100		2145
Los Angeles	SENDOBS	SHUS66	2130	2200	2245	SENDNFDR	FNUS46	2130	2200	2245
Medford	SENDOBS	SHUS66	2155	2155	2305	SENDNFDR	FNUS46	2200		2245
Monterey	SENDOBS	SHUS66	2130	2200	2245	SENDNFDR	FNUS46	2130	2200	2245
Phoenix	SENDOBS	SHUS65	2115	2200	2245	SENDNFDR	FNUS45	2115	2155	2245
Reno	SENDOBS	SHUS65	2145	2145	2255	SENDNFDR	FNUS45	2145		2245
Sacramento	SENDOBS	SHUS66	2145	2205	2301	SENDNFDR	FNUS46	2145		2245
San Diego	SENDOBS	SHUS66	2130	2200	2245	SENDNFDR	FNUS46	2130	2200	2245

F. Participation in Interagency Groups

NWS offices providing service within California are expected to provide representation at the regional AOP meeting held at least annually. Proxy representation is acceptable. NWS offices are also expected to host at least one meeting per year with local fire management units to strengthen the customer relationship and address local concerns.

G. Additional Services

NWS will provide and maintain a cadre of trained Incident Meteorologists (IMETs).

H. Forecaster Training

The NWS recognizes the need for specialized training in fire weather meteorology for forecasters. Any NWS meteorologist producing fire weather products must meet the requirements set forth in [NWS Directive 10-405](#) and the following currency requirements set forth by the CWCG:

Prepare and issue at least 15 fire weather forecasts in the last 12 months at the current duty station;
and

Prepare and issue the lesser of at least 10% of office spots or at least 5 spots in the past 12 months;
and

Successful completion of all WFO fire weather drills and/or training seminars in the past 12 months.

If fire weather currency lapses, the forecaster must work no less than three (3) shifts with a forecaster who is current, handling all fire weather duties.

V. WILDLAND FIRE AGENCY SERVICES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Wildland Fire Agencies' programs provide Geographic Area and national products for the strategic role of resource prioritization and utilization. Redding and Riverside GACC are the two focal points within California for the mobilization, demobilization, and pre-positioning of personnel and resources for all wildland fire management agencies within California.

Fuels management is a priority for all wildland fire agencies within California. The California GACCs are charged by CWCG with the coordination and oversight of personnel and resources for accomplishing these projects.

PSU in Redding and Riverside provide fire weather and fire potential predictions and assessments to fire managers through the Predictive Services Program. PSU meteorologists also liaison with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and Air Quality District officials. PSUs providing Predictive Services to California will ensure that all products are prepared and issued by fire weather-qualified forecasters as specified in this AOP.

More information on Predictive Services is available at:

http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/predictive/NPSG/npsg_pdf/PSHandbook_Web.pdf

A. Operational Support and Predictive Services

GACC meteorologists at the PSUs in Redding and Riverside combine forecast information from the NWS and other sources into area-wide summaries and briefings. These meteorologists work in conjunction with Fire Intelligence to form the Predictive Services group, which produces integrated fire weather/fire potential assessments for California. The intent of Predictive Services is to provide strategic, regional, and sub-regional information to assist in preparedness, movement, and allocation of fire-fighting resources. All products are available online, and can be obtained from either the North Ops PSU weather web site at <http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/index.htm> or the South Ops PSU weather web site at <http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/index.htm>.

1. Routine Predictive Services Products – (Examples provided in [Appendix C](#))

a. Daily Weather Outlook- This is a product that provides fire personnel with a quick-briefing tool for obtaining the highlights of Days 1 and 2 weather in their Geographic Area. The GIS-based graphics in this product combines three elements from the NWS' national gridded database, including predicted minimum RH, wind speed and wind direction. The Predictive Services meteorologists produce the graphics, write a weather synopsis, add appropriate weather symbols to the map, and write a 3 to 7 Day Outlook section which highlights any anticipated significant fire weather for that period.

Issuance Schedule: South Ops 0930 LT and North Ops 1030 LT. Issued daily during fire season, and M-F during the off season.

b. 7-Day Significant Fire Potential Product: This product forecasts the potential for significant fires through the next seven days. In California, we use our “large fires” criteria (which can vary by Predictive Service Area) as the definition of “significant”. The product has a table which consists of:

1) Fuel Dryness

- Moist Fuels (Green) – Little if any threat for large fires.
- Dry Fuels (Yellow) – Low threat for large fires when a Significant Weather Trigger is absent.
- Very Dry Fuels (Brown) – Moderate threat for large fires when a Significant Weather Trigger is absent.

2) Significant Weather Triggers

- Lightning
- Wind
- Unseasonably Hot and Dry

3) High Risk Day

- (Red) – Occurs when “Dry” or “Very Dry” Fuel Dryness conditions coexist with a Significant Weather Trigger. The combination of these two factors will create conditions that historically have resulted in large fires across California.
- (Orange) – Occurs when environmental conditions support a high likelihood of fire ignition or significant fire growth on existing fires absent a specific ignition trigger.

The product also contains a narrative section consisting of a Weather Synopsis, a Fire Potential discussion, and a Resource Capability summary.

Issuance Schedule: 1000 local time daily during fire-season

c. Monthly Fire Weather/Fire Danger Outlook: These combine all available weather, climate, fuels, and fire danger information in order to make a prediction of fire business across the Geographic Area for the coming month. The assessments try, when possible, to highlight the periods and potential for large fire activity and resource utilization, relative to normal.

Issuance Schedule: Year around, prepared a few days prior to start of the new month and posted on the website on the 31st or 1st.

d. Fire Season Assessments: These are estimates of fire potential for longer periods, ranging from three months to an entire fire season in duration. A nationwide collaboration of meteorologists, climatologists, and fuels and fire danger specialists takes place in spring. Season-to-date precipitation, snow pack, temperature and fuels information is melded with a consensus climate forecast to predict fire season severity. It is expected that the assessments will be updated as needed back at the Geographic Areas – see below for California.

Issuance Schedule: The pre-season assessment (preliminary) is done at a national workshop in April. In California the main seasonal assessment is issued in late May or June, containing any necessary updates and added detail from the earlier preliminary. A second adjustment is done about mid fire season, if necessary.

2. Other Predictive Services Products, Projects and Services

a. Prescribed Burn Spot Forecasts - The PSUs will provide site-specific prescribed burn (spot) forecasts, for any requesting agency, where smoke dispersion and/or smoke management are concerns. The PSUs have an increasing role in helping the fire agencies accomplish their prescribed burn acreage targets, while minimizing impacts on air quality. Along with this program, the PSUs will work closely with the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the Air Districts, and Air Pollution Control officers. The PSUs will sponsor daily conference calls at 1300 local time, with prescribed burn managers, CARB, and the air districts. These calls help coordinate burning, especially during “marginal burn days” as outlined in the most recent version of Title 17. The Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACCs) will provide spot forecasts for ongoing Wildland Fire Use (WFU) projects whenever they and the NWS have agreed to have this workload transferred to the PSU meteorologists.

b. CANSAC Update - The California and Nevada Smoke and Air Consortium (CANSAC) <http://www.cefa.dri.edu/COFF/coffframe.php> products continue to gain more widespread use. The main Products are found at http://www.cefa.dri.edu/COFF/cansac_output.php. The 4-km output can be used to initialize 1-km resolution wind models.

CANSAC’s primary goals remain threefold: the production of high-resolution meteorological output for use in operational fire weather analysis, ARB and air district use in support of burn decisions and air quality monitoring, and smoke transport/BlueSky type applications. Susie Stingley of the USFS continues as Board chairperson in 2008. John Snook continues to chair the Operational Applications Group (OAG), and Kemel Gurer chairs the Technical Advisory Group (TAG). Contributing partner agencies are listed on the front page of the website (see above). CANSAC highlights in the past year include:

- A specialized 4-km domain, centered on the Lake Tahoe Basin, was added.
- Widespread use (included to support Bluesky) in SOPS Santa Ana’s Oct ’07.
- The “quadrant” maps in the Air Quality section now overlap each other slightly, allowing for easier analysis near NOPS-SOPS interface and near the CA-NV border.

- Model run times now shown in Pacific time, not just UTC.
- Main products page – top menu bar rearranged for easier use.
- Newest version of Bluesky (v3) will soon be in place. Among other things, it can use Smartfire (satellite-based) hot-spot updates to get fire perimeters.
- Possible purchase of new hardware in late 2008, pending available funding.

c. Other Ongoing or New Projects - The PSUs at Redding and Riverside are also involved in the following:

- Participation in several regional or national committees, including NPSG (Rolinski and Willey).
- Leadership in FIRESCOPE PS working group, CA FW Program Assessment Team, and CANSAC Operational Applications Group (Snook).
- Participation in national PS program workgroups, such as that involved with 7-Day Significant Fire Potential product upgrades.
- Work with DRI to ensure continued implementation of tasks in Phase II of the Hourly Fire Danger Rating project. Soon – hourly FD climatology for each Fire Danger Rating Area (FDRA) and a 24-hour FD looping capability.
- As requested, Met and Intel support for Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFSS). Intel moving from “author” to “analyst” capability.

B. Program Management - Management of federal land management and fire agencies’ fire weather programs and responsibilities.

1. RAWS – The Regional RAWS Coordinators of the various agencies manage the interagency RAWS program within California. This includes regular monitoring of data quality and assisting with station maintenance and acquisition issues. It also involves development of and assistance in providing RAWS training classes.

2. Liaison – The PSU Program Manager at each Geographic Area (North and South) will be a liaison between field fire managers and various service providers including the NWS, the private sector, and the research community.

C. PSU Meteorologists Proficiency and Currency

1. Proficiency

a) Completion of S-190, S-290, and S-390

b) Work no less than five (5) shifts handling all operational products. This includes the preparation and issuance of:

- Daily Weather Outlook
- 7-Day Significant Fire Potential Product
- Smoke Transport and Stability Forecast
- All Site-specific (spot) forecasts requested, for burns where smoke dispersion or smoke management is a concern

c) Conduct at least 2 each, and 10 total, of the following:

- Daily coordination calls with other GACC office (Redding or Riverside)
- 0830 PDT (South Ops) or 0845 PDT (North Ops) conference call with the NWS

- 1030 PDT Briefing for Ops/ECC personnel
 - 1300 PDT Smoke coordination conference calls
 - Special briefings and conference calls for CALFIRE and Federal agencies
- d) Work with Intel Officer and be able to produce all Predictive Services products (using in-office guidelines or help sheets, as necessary). Included in this are the:
- Monthly Weather Assessments, issued by late in the prior month
 - Seasonal Weather and Fire Season Assessments, before early-to-mid high fire season
- e) The PSU Program Manager will sign-off on proficiency

2. Currency

- a) The forecaster has prepared and issued at least 12 of the operational products (listed in 1.b.) during the past three months. At least 3 of the 12 should be site-specific (spot) forecasts.
- b) If IMET qualified, must maintain proficiency in accordance with NWCG Technical Specialist standards.

D. Technology Transfer – GACC meteorologists will work to integrate advanced technology analytical and prediction systems into fire management planning and operations. Some efforts will include:

- Regional numerical modeling of weather and smoke dispersion. The PSUs are primary users of CANSAC, which runs an MM5 mesoscale weather model with 4-km resolution across CA and NV. Seek to incorporate CANSAC data into other current weather products, such as Smoke Transport/ Stability text product, the Daily Weather Outlook, etc.
- Continue use of FireFamily-plus in briefing fire Managers/ECC on fuels and fire danger conditions
- Proper use of RAWS and NFDRS, and assistance with WIMS
- Research and development to advance fire meteorology

E. Agency Computer Systems – Where fire management computer systems like WIMS are locally available, access to the systems will be granted to the NWS to provide or develop services, as needed. Costs will be borne by the Interagency Wildland Fire Agencies for requirements that are beyond the distribution of weather information through a central communications gateway.

F. Fire Weather Observations

1. RAWS and NFDRS Observations

Fire weather observations for stations that desire next-day forecasts should be entered into WIMS no later than 1340 PST (1440 PDT). **Local quality control is a critical element in the data entry process.** Observations from Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) sites will be the observation that is closest to 1300 LST/1400 LDT. In WIMS this can be either a 12xx or 13xx RAWS observation.

RAWS utilized for NFDRS stations, and manual stations utilized for NFDRS are expected to be sited and maintained to the standards published in NWCG PMS 426-3 “National Fire Danger Rating System Weather Station Standards”. The website to view this document, and any recent updates to it, is <http://www.fs.fed.us/raws/standards/>.

Proper siting of weather stations has always been a high priority in California. The GACC meteorologists are available to assist land or fire managers in selecting proper sites. Annual RAWS maintenance requirements will be strictly adhered to.

2. Fireline Observations and Spot Forecast Feedback

Fireline Observations – Representative observations are required when requesting a spot forecast, whether for a wildfire, prescribed burn, or other project/need. Distance is not the only factor in determining whether an observation site is considered representative. Observations taken only half a mile from the burn site, but beyond a ridgetop and in another drainage, may not be representative for a variety of reasons (e.g. changes in aspect, elevation, local wind direction, vegetative cover, etc.). On the other hand, observations from a fixed RAWS three miles away from the project site could still be quite representative, if it is similar in elevation, aspect, local wind flow, vegetative cover, etc.

Fire agency personnel will take standard fireline observations of temperature, relative humidity, wind direction and speed, and weather/sky condition consistent with guidance provided in NFES 2140 “Weather Station Handbook – An Interagency Guide for Wildland Managers.”

Fire agency personnel are encouraged to discuss the fire or burn with the meteorologist preparing the spot forecast to alert the forecaster to details which would otherwise not be apparent, such as variations in humidity in a large and complex site, when winds switched from upslope to downslope, and similar items which will enhance the quality of the resulting spot forecast.

Spot Forecast Feedback and Validation – When providing manual observations (i.e. from a belt weather kit or Kestrel) for use in spot forecasts, prescribed burners should proactively provide feedback to their forecast providers, whether PSU or NWS. This feedback should be made available within 24 hours of forecast issuance, or before issuance of the next spot forecast, whichever is first. Be sure to include the following:

- Sky cover and/or precipitation verification
- Relative humidity
- Wind speed and direction
- Temperature

G. Reimbursement for NWS Provided On-site Support and Training Assistance – Federal agencies will reimburse the NWS for all costs incurred by the agency for IMET support and training assistance, per the procedures set forth in the National Agreement. The State of California has an agreement with the NWS, which is used for cost reimbursement.

VI. JOINT RESPONSIBILITIES

The NWS and CWCG use a joint Fire Weather Program Assessment Team to evaluate fire weather products and services in California ([Appendix H](#)) and recommend improvements. The assessments include products and services from both the NWS and the PSUs.

NWS offices and the PSUs are committed to providing collaborated forecasts and products. When operationally significant differences or inconsistencies between adjacent WFO forecasts are identified, or between the two PSUs' products, they will be updated in order to provide a collaborated forecast. Although the WFOs and PSUs have different forecasts and products, in areas where overlap exists both sides agree it is important to work together to ensure that services reflect similar forecast thinking. Options for collaboration are detailed in this AOP.

CWCG and NWS are committed to working together to resolve problems in near-real time. Issues from either party will be brought to the attention of the appropriate management level immediately for resolution. Fire managers should first work with their local NWS office for resolution, then the Sacramento Meteorologist-in-Charge and closest PSU, and then the Western Regional Office, Division of Meteorological Services and CWCG representative.

A. California Fire Weather Web Page – An interagency fire weather web page for California is available at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/cafw/>. Emergency Communication Center Dispatch Area (ECCDA) Forecast Summaries are available from this web site. These simplified fire weather summaries are meant to be used for fire agency radio broadcasts while at the same time providing the most essential daily weather information. Any Red Flag Warning or Fire Weather Watch headlines shown in the ECCDA Forecast Summaries are linked to the actual watch or warning product. In addition, all forecast segments within an ECCDA are listed at the beginning of the forecast and can be mouse clicked to jump immediately to that segment.

At a minimum, ECCDA Forecast Summaries will be available daily by 9:45 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. during high fire season and once per day Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) during the low season. Like PSA forecast summaries, the ECCDA Forecast Summaries will not be updated. Therefore, fire agency personnel should consult the latest FWF and/or RFW issuances for updated information at other times and are directed to do so on the California Fire Weather web page.

B. Training - Meteorological training can be provided by both NWS and GACC PSU meteorologists. The NWS forecast offices primarily handle local courses that occur within their County Warning Areas. The PSU's primary role is with regional and national level courses. Requests for these (regional and national) courses should be directed to either the Redding or Riverside PSU. Each NWS office and PSU should have at least one person qualified to teach courses up through Intermediate Fire Behavior (S-290).

Requests for training from NWS offices should be directed to that office's Fire Weather focal point or Meteorologist-In-Charge. If the office is not able to provide an instructor for a course, that office will assume the responsibility for finding an instructor. Requests for training from the PSUs should be directed to either the Training Coordinator or Team Leader of the PSU. In all cases, sufficient advance notice (\geq six weeks whenever possible) should be given to allow for scheduling and proper preparation.

Costs incurred by NWS in providing training assistance (other than salary costs for a normal non-holiday weekday) will be borne by the requesting agency. Costs incurred by PSU instructors are covered in their annual budget, without need for reimbursement.

C. Incident Response – In addition to following direction in the National Mobilization Guide, the following direction is clarification for Command Centers in California:

When an IMET is requested for an incident, **the request will be placed to the GACC.** The GACC will notify the National Fire Weather Operations Coordinator (NFWOC) at NIFC so that the ECC does not have to be concerned. Priority will be given to IMET requests. (Larry Van Bussum or his acting: Office 208-334-9862 or Cell 208 863-2582).

The GACCs will maintain a list of qualified IMETs and trainees in ROSS by Weather Forecasting Office identifier, and provide dispatching services for the NWS in California. This list will be updated annually based on the list that is published in the CA Fire Weather Annual Operating Plan. IMETs will be dispatched by the GACCs in California just as if they are GACC employees.

When the NFWOC determines who will fill the incident request, the information will be relayed back to the GACC. If the IMET is within the requesting Geographic area, the IMET will be mobilized using ROSS.

If the IMET is in the California GACC that is not hosting the incident, the request will be placed through Selection Area to the other GACC.

If the identified IMET is not in a California Weather Forecast Office, the IMET request will be edited to add a Name Request and placed up to NICC who will place the request to the appropriate GACC.

The following list designates which California GACC will status and dispatch personnel for the California Weather Forecasting Offices. Status can be maintained Available/Local until requested to reduce work:

North Ops

South Ops

Eureka WFO
Sacramento WFO
San Francisco/Monterey WFO
Honolulu WFO
Pago Pago/American Samoa WSO

Hanford WFO
Los Angeles/Oxnard WFO
San Diego WFO

IMET personnel from Medford WFO, Reno WFO, Phoenix WFO and Las Vegas WFO shall be requested through NICC to their respective GACC using Name Request.

The procedures for requesting IMETs will follow the guidelines outlined in the National Interagency Agreement, Administrative Procedures section of the current National Mobilization Guide, Personnel section of the current California Mobilization Guide, and CALFIRE Procedure No. 302.

The following information will be provided to the requested IMET:

- Name of fire
- Location of fire
- Directions to location where the IMET is to report and location of Incident Base.
- Name of Incident Commander, Plans Chief, and Fire Behavior Analyst, if available.
- Request and Resource Order number for IMET

Additionally, the user agency is responsible for providing adequate shelter to allow the equipment and fire weather meteorologist to function efficiently. This would include a location that is free of excessive dust, heat and moisture, protection from wind and other elements, table, and chair. Transportation and shelter arrangements should be made at the time of request; 120 volt AC power is desirable.

D. Briefings – Either NWS or GACC meteorologists will conduct briefings upon request, time and resources permitting.

E. Coordination Conference Calls – Coordination conference calls will be conducted, as needed, between the PSUs and the WFOs during fire season. See [Appendix D](#) for further details on these calls.

F. WIMS IDs for NFDRS Stations – All NFDRS observation stations are assigned a six-digit station identification number for use in WIMS. The Northern California or Southern California PSUs must be contacted for assignment of a six-digit number for any new station, or for any changes in location made to existing stations that already have a WIMS ID number. This function will be handled through the PSUs. The PSUs will notify the NWS of any new or relocated NFDRS stations.

VII. AGENCY SIGNATURES / EFFECTIVE DATES OF THE AOP

This AOP shall be effective on the date the last signature is placed on this page and will remain in effect until the date the last signature is placed on this page the following year. Updates or amendments may be added in the interim upon agreement of all signatories. Usually the effective dates are May 1 through May 1 the following year.

Agency Signatures

Signature on file

Date

Chair, California Wildfire Coordinating Group

Signature on file

Date

NWS State Liaison Official

APPENDIX A - Forecast Parameter Definitions

1. General Parameters

Sky/weather – Cloud cover and weather. Weather could include rain, snow, showers, thunderstorms, etc. Cloud cover is as follows:

Clear	5% or less cloud cover
Mostly Clear	6% - 25% cloud cover
Partly Cloudy	26% - 50% cloud cover
Mostly Cloudy	51% - 69% cloud cover
Cloudy/Overcast	70% or greater cloud cover

Temperature and 24 hour trend – Dry bulb temperature extreme, either daytime or nighttime, and trend of extreme from previous 24 hours.

Humidity and 24 hour trend – Relative humidity extreme, either daytime or nighttime, and trend of extreme from previous 24 hours.

Wind - 20 foot (10-min) RAWs standard – Surface wind speed and direction as altered by local terrain and surface roughness and measured per instrumentation and siting standards set by NWCG for the RAWs program and NFDRS. In practice, surface wind forecasts produced based on the ASOS standard will be reduced by 20% to obtain 20 ft. winds, except in cases where wide open rangeland or desert is predominant. This same comparison will be used in considering stations other than RAWs to validate forecasts.

Ridgetop winds – Synoptic scale wind speed and direction at or just above mean ridgetop level.

Chance of Rain – Probability of occurrence or aerial coverage of 0.01" or greater liquid equivalent precipitation.

Chance of Wetting Rain (CWR) – Probability of occurrence or aerial coverage of 0.10" or greater liquid equivalent precipitation.

Haines Index – A numerical means to indicate the potential for existing wildfires to experience large growth and or extreme fire behavior (i.e. crowning, spotting, and rapid rates of spread). The Index combines both the instability and dryness of the air by examining the lapse rate between two pressure levels in the atmosphere and the dryness at the lower level. For most of the western United States, the levels used are 700 mb (about 10,000 ft) and 500 mb (about 18,000 ft). The drier and more unstable the atmosphere, the higher the Haines Index and the potential for extreme fuel driven fire behavior. Haines Index values vary from 2 to 6 and classifications are shown below:

<u>HAINES INDEX</u>	<u>POTENTIAL FOR LARGE FIRE GROWTH</u>
2-3	Very Low
4	Low
5	Moderate
6	High

(Haines Index does not include the effects of wind on fire spread.)

2. Lightning Activity Level (LAL)

LIGHTNING ACTIVITY LEVEL GUIDE FOR FIRE WEATHER OBSERVERS					
LAL	Cloud and Storm Development	Areal Coverage	Individual storm cell cloud to ground lightning discharges		
			Counts ¹ cg/5 min	Counts ¹ cg/15 min	Average ¹ cg/min
1	No thunderstorms	None	----	----	----
2	Cumulus clouds are common but only a few reach the towering stage. A single thunderstorm must be confirmed in the rating area. The clouds mostly produce virga but light rain will occasionally reach ground. Lightning is very infrequent.	<15 %	1-5	1-8	<1
3	Cumulus clouds are common. Swelling and towering cumulus cover less than 2/10 of the sky. Thunderstorms are few, but 2 to 3 occur within the observation area. Light to moderate rain will reach the ground, and lightning is infrequent.	15-24 %	6-10	9-15	1-2
4	Swelling cumulus and towering cumulus cover 2-3/10 of the sky. Thunderstorms are scattered but more than three must occur within the observation area. Moderate rain is commonly produced, and lightning is frequent.	25-50 %	11-15	16-25	2-3
5	Towering cumulus and thunderstorms are numerous. They cover more than 3/10 and occasionally obscure the sky. Rain is moderate to heavy, and lightning is frequent and intense.	>50 %	>15	>25	>3
6	Dry lightning outbreak. (LAL of 3 or greater with majority of storms producing little or no rainfall.)	>15 %	----	----	----

¹ Cloud-to-ground lightning discharges

APPENDIX B - NWS Forecast Examples

The most current products issued by the NWS forecast offices can be viewed by clicking on the appropriate office and product identifier in the table below.

1. Fire Weather Planning Forecast (FWF)
2. ECCDA Forecast
3. Activity Planner (PLAN)
4. NFDRS Forecast (see accompanying text for interpretation)
5. Area Forecast Discussion (AFD)
6. Red Flag Warning/Fire Weather Watch (RFW)
7. Spot Forecast (FWS)
8. Internet Spot Request Site (SPOT REQ)

MFR Medford	EKA Eureka	STO Sacramento	REV Reno	MTR Monterey	HNX Hanford	VEF Las Vegas	LOX Oxnard	SGX San Diego	PSR Phoenix
FWF	FWF	FWF	FWF	FWF	FWF	FWF	FWF	FWF	FWF
ECCDA	ECCDA	ECCDA	ECCDA	ECCDA	ECCDA	ECCDA	ECCDA	ECCDA	
PLAN	PLAN	PLAN	PLAN	PLAN	PLAN	PLAN	PLAN	PLAN	PLAN
NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS	NFDRS
AFD	AFD	AFD	AFD	AFD	AFD	AFD	AFD	AFD	AFD
RFW	RFW	RFW	RFW	RFW	RFW	RFW	RFW	RFW	RFW
FWS	FWS	FWS	FWS	FWS	FWS	FWS	FWS	FWS	FWS
SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ	SPOT REQ

NFDRS Forecast Interpretation

- a. ZONE/FCST - Shows whether this forecast is a zone trend (ZONE) or station trend (FCST) forecast. Trend forecasts (ZONEs) show how parameters will change over the next 24 hours for a group of stations contained in a given NFDRS trend zone. Note that a trend zone consists of several points rather than an area. The NFDRS trend forecast applies to every station within the trend zone. The WIMS catalogue determines which stations are within a trend zone. Occasionally a station within an NFDRS trend zone is not expected to trend the same way as the rest of the stations in the zone. In those cases, specific point forecast values (FCST) should be made for that station while a zone trend forecast is done which applies to the rest of the stations in the zone group. Specific forecast values (FCST) always are placed after the trend forecasts (ZONEs).
- b. **YYMMDD** Year, month, and day valid forecast time.
- c. **NO** NFDRS Zone Number (or individual NFDRS station number)
- d. **13** Always 1300 LST
- e. **WX** Weather valid at 1300 LST tomorrow. Valid entries are:
- | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 0 | clear |
| 1 | scattered clouds (1/8 to 4/8) |
| 2 | broken clouds (5/8 to 7/8) |
| 3 | overcast clouds (more than 7/8) |
| 4 | foggy |
| 5* | drizzle |
| 6* | raining |
| 7* | snowing or sleeting |
| 8 | showers (in sight or at the station) |
| 9 | thunderstorm |
- *(Categories 5, 6, or 7 sets NFDRS components and indices to 0...use only with widespread precipitation)**
- f. **TEMP** Temperature in deg F valid at 1300 LST for FCST or temperature trend + or - for ZONE
- g. **RH** Relative humidity in % valid at 1300 LST for FCST or RH trend + or - for ZONE
- h. **LAL1** Lightning Activity Level 1300 LST to 2300 LST
- i. **LAL2** Lightning Activity Level 2300 LST to 2300 LST (next day)
- j. **WIND** Wind speed in mph valid at 1300 LST for FCST or wind speed trend + or - for ZONE (**20 ft level/10 min avg**)
- k. **10HR** 10-hour time lag fuel moisture in % valid at 1300 LST for FCST or trend + or - for ZONE
- l. **Tx** Max temperature from 1300 LST to 1300 LST tomorrow
- m. **Tn** Min temperature from 1300 LST to 1300 LST tomorrow
- n. **RHx** Max relative humidity from 1300 LST to 1300 LST tomorrow
- o. **RHn** Min relative humidity from 1300 LST to 1300 LST tomorrow
- p. **PD1** Precipitation duration in hours 1300 LST to 0500 LST
- q. **PD2** Precipitation duration in hours 0500 LST to 1300 LST
- r. **WETFLAG** Y or N. Indicates whether liquid water will be on the fuels at 1300 LST. **(Use with caution – a “Y” will set all the NFDRS indices to zero!)**

The NFDRS trend forecast will follow the comma delimited format as shown:

ZONE,NO,YYMMDD,13,WX,TEMP(trend),RH(trend),LAL1,LAL2,WIND(trend),10HR(trend),PD1,PD2,WETFLAG
 FCST,NO,YYMMDD,13,WX,TEMP(trend),RH(trend),LAL1,LAL2,WIND(trend),10HR(trend),PD1,PD2,WETFLAG

In California, the station specific point forecast is not normally used. The format for station specific point forecasts is:

FCST,NO,YYMMDD,13,WX,TEMP(specific),RH(specific),LAL1,LAL2,WIND(specific),10HR(specific),TX(specific),
 TN(specific),RHx(specific),RHn(specific),PD1,PD2,WETFLAG

APPENDIX C – Predictive Services Product Examples

The most current products issued by the Predictive Services offices can be viewed by clicking on the appropriate office and product identifier in the table below:

North Ops Redding	South Ops Riverside
<u>Daily Weather Outlook</u>	<u>Daily Weather Outlook</u>
<u>7-Day Significant Fire Potential</u>	<u>7-Day Significant Fire Potential</u>
<u>Monthly Outlook</u>	<u>Monthly Outlook</u>
<u>Seasonal Assessment</u>	<u>Seasonal Assessment</u>

APPENDIX D – High Season Coordination Calls

Predictive Services Units and National Weather Service Coordination Calls

Coordination conference calls will be conducted as needed between the Predictive Services Units (PSUs) and the National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) during fire season. The purpose of the call is to produce seamless products between WFOs and also between the PSU and WFOs. Calls should be brief and to the point.

Calls will be at 0845 PDT (North) 0830 (South) during the fire season.

The Predictive Services Units meteorologist will facilitate the call.

Normally, there will be two calls. One will be for the north and the other for the south. There are 3 WFOs that have forecast areas in both the north and the south. Routinely, Monterey will be on the north and south calls, and Reno and Sacramento will be on the north call. In some instances, one statewide call will be conducted.

Deployed IMETs should be included in the calls.

The PSUs will place an unpublished message on their Internet web page by 0800 PDT to inform the WFOs if a call is necessary, and which WFOs need to be on it.

The focus of the calls will be in the short term (72 hours).

Calls will be conducted when one or more of the following is occurring:

- Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning is in effect.
- A critical fire weather pattern is expected to develop.
- Large wildfires or wildfires with IMETs deployed
- California is in Planning Level IV or V.

APPENDIX E – Backup Spot Forecast Request Form (WS FORM D-1)

WS FORM D-1 (1-2005) (Supersedes Previous Editions)		SPOT REQUEST (See reverse for instructions)		U.S. Department of Commerce NOAA National Weather Service					
Please call the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) when submitting a request and also after you receive a forecast to ensure request and forecast were received. Please provide feedback to WFO on forecast.									
1. Time†	2. Date	3. Name of Incident or Project		4. Requesting Agency					
5. Requesting Official		6. Phone Number		7. Fax Number	8. Contact Person				
9. Ignition/Incident Time and Date	12. Reason for Spot Request (choose one only) <input type="radio"/> Wildfire <input type="radio"/> Non-Wildfire Under the Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services (USFS, BLM, NPS, USFWS, BIA) <input type="radio"/> Non-Wildfire State, tribal or local fire agency working in coordination with a federal participant in the Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services <input type="radio"/> Non-Wildfire Essential to public safety, e.g. due to the proximity of population centers or critical infrastructure.			13. Latitude/Longitude:					
10. Size (Acres)				14. Elevation (ft, Mean Sea Level) Top: Bottom:					
11. Type of Incident <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire <input type="checkbox"/> Prescribed Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Wildland Fire Use (WFU) <input type="checkbox"/> HAZMAT <input type="checkbox"/> Search And Rescue (SAR)				15. Drainage					
16. Aspect	17. Sheltering <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered								
18. Fuel Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Brush <input type="checkbox"/> Timber <input type="checkbox"/> Slash <input type="checkbox"/> Grass/Timber Understory <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Fuel Model: 1,2,3 4,5,6,7 8,9,10 11,12,13 2,5,8									
19. Location and name of nearest weather observing station (distance & direction from project):									
20. Weather Observations from project or nearby station(s): (Winds should be in compass direction e.g. N, NW, etc.)									
Place	Elevation	†Ob Time	20 ft. Wind Dir Speed		Eye Level Wind Dir Speed	Temp. Dry Wet	Moisture RH DP	Remarks (Relevant Weather, etc)	
21. Requested Forecast Period Date Start _____ End _____ Forecast needed for: <input type="checkbox"/> Today <input type="checkbox"/> Tonight <input type="checkbox"/> Day 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Extended	22. Primary Forecast Elements (Check all that are needed for management ignited wildland fires, provide prescription parameters): Needed: Sky/Weather <input type="checkbox"/> Temperature <input type="checkbox"/> Humidity <input type="checkbox"/> 20 ft Wind <input type="checkbox"/> Valley <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge Top <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify in #23) <input type="checkbox"/>			23. Remarks (other needed forecast elements, forecast needed for specific time, etc.)					
24. Send Forecast to: ATTN:		25. Location:		26. Phone Number: Fax Number:					
27. Remarks (Special requests, incident details, Smoke Dispersion elements needed, etc.):									
EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS: † Use 24-hour clock to indicate time. Example: 10:15 p.m. = 2215; 10:15 a.m. = 1015 Indicate local standard time or local daylight time									

WS FORM D-1
WS FORM D-1, January 2005 INSTRUCTIONS:

I. Incident Personnel:

1. Complete items 1 through 27 where applicable.
 - a. Example of weather conditions on site:

13. Weather Observations from project or nearby station(s):

Place	Elevation	Obs Time	20 ft. Wind		Eye Level Wind.		Temp.		Moisture		Remarks <i>(Relevant Weather, etc.)</i>
			Dir	Speed	Dir	Speed	Dry	Wet	RH	DP	
Unit G-50	1530'	0830	NW	6-8	NW	3-5	32		72		Observations from unit RAWS station, 50% cloud cover.

- b. If the incident (HAZMAT, SAR) involves marine, put the wave/swell height and direction in the Remarks section.
2. Transmit in numerical sequence or fax to the appropriate Weather Forecast Office. (A weather forecaster on duty will complete the special forecast as quickly as possible and transmit the forecast and outlook to you by the method requested)
3. Retain completed copy for your records.
4. **Provide feedback to NWS utilizing separate page.** Be sure to include a copy of the spot forecast with any feedback submission including forecaster's name. Feedback to NWS personnel is imperative to assist with future forecasts. **Remember, feedback on correct forecasts is equally as valuable as feedback on incorrect forecasts!** If spot forecast is significantly different than conditions on site, a second forecast may be required.

II. ALL RELAY POINTS should use this form to insure completeness of date and forecast. A supply of this form should be kept by each dispatcher and all others who may be relaying requests for forecasts or relaying completed forecasts to field units.

III. Forms are available from your local National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office. They may also be reproduced by other agencies as needed, entering the phone number and radio identification if desired.

NOTICE: Information provided on this form may be used by the National Weather Service for official purposes in any way, including public release and publication in NWS products. False statements on this form may be subject to prosecution under the False Statement Accountability Act of 1996 (18 U.S.C. § 1001) or other statutes.

APPENDIX F - NFDRS Table - Site Information, Owners, and NWS Responsibilities

EKA = NWS Eureka, HNX = NWS Hanford, VEF = NWS Las Vegas, LOX = NWS Oxnard, MFR = NWS Medford, MTR = NWS Monterey, REV = NWS Reno, STO = NWS Sacramento, SGX = NWS San Diego

NWS Eureka

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ALDER POINT	40423	State	HUU	556	40.1866667	-123.0097222	923
BACKBONE	40518	FS	SHF	591	40.8891667	-123.0022222	4700
BIG BAR	40501	FS	SHF	591	40.7433333	-123.0041667	1500
BIGHILL	40402	BIA	HIA	555	41.0975000	-123.0105556	3570
BOONVILLE	41001	State	MEU	557	38.9872222	-123.0058333	940
BRUSH MTN L.O.	40404	FS	SRF	555	40.9172222	123.6675000	3988
COOKSIE MOUNTAIN	40422	State	HUU	560	40.2569440	-124.0041667	2950
EEL RIVER (MNF)	41005	FS	MNF	557	39.8252778	-123.0011111	1500
EEL RIVER CAMP	40421	State	HUU	556	40.1383333	-123.0136111	470
FIVE CENT	40520	FS	SHF	591	40.7597222	-122.0152778	2550
FRIEND MTN	40512	FS	SHF	591	40.5050000	-123.0055556	4000
GASQUET	40102	FS	KNF	556	41.8452778	-123.0161111	500
HAYFORK	40503	FS	SHF	591	40.5500000	-123.0025000	2323
HOOPA	40408	BIA	HIA	555	41.0477778	-123.0111111	375
KNEELAND	40429	State	HUU	560	40.72	-123.9269444	2737
LAYTONVILLE	41019	State	MEU	557	39.7022222	-123.0080556	1838
MAD RIVER	40507	FS	SRF	555	40.4633333	-123.0086111	2775
MCGUIRES	41017	State	MEU	557	39.3522222	-123.0097222	1040
MENDOCINO PASS	41018	FS	MNF	557	39.8075000	-122.0155556	5420
PATTYMOCUS	40812	FS	SHF	594	40.2883333	-122.0144444	3500
RODEO VALLEY	41015	State	MEU	557	39.6683333	-123.0052778	2425
RUTH STATION	40508	FS	SRF	555	40.2505556	-123.0050000	2732
SCHOOLHOUSE	40425	NPS	RNP	560	41.1383333	-123.0150000	2640
SCORPION	40517	FS	SHF	591	41.1116667	-122.0113889	4400
SHIP MTN L.O.	40105	FS	SRF	556	41.7358333	-123.0130556	5300
SODA CREEK	41406	FS	MNF	557	39.4250000	-122.0161111	1725
TRINITY CAMP	40516	State	SHU	591	40.6788889	-122.0136111	2100
UNDERWOOD	40519	FS	SRF	555	40.7219444	-123.0080556	2600
WESTSIDE	40428	NPS	RNP	560	41.2233333	-124.0008333	1291
YUROK	40427	BIA	YIA	556	41.2897222	-123.0141667	495

NWS San Joaquin Valley/Hanford

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ASH MOUNTAIN	44701	NPS	KNP	529	36.4913889	-118.0136111	1730
BATTERSON	44207	FS	SNF	528	37.3780556	-119.0102778	3160
BEAR PEAK	44730	BLM	BBD	530	35.8819444	-118.0011111	8228
BEAR VALLEY	45007	State	KRN	562	35.1397222	-118.0102778	4995
BLACKROCK	44722	FS	SQF	534	36.0936111	-118.0041667	8100
BRECKENRIDGE	45009	FS	SQF	534	35.4505556	-118.0097222	7548
CAMPO SECO	43209	State	TCU	539	38.2236111	-120.0141667	399
CASE MOUNTAIN	44733	BLM	BBD	529	36.4108333	-118.0133333	6450
CATHEYS VALLEY	44114	State	MMU	528	37.4680556	-120.0016667	1200
CEDAR GROVE	44719	NPS	KNF	534	36.7877778	-118.0108333	4720
CHIM PK	44721	BLM	BDD	530	35.9000000	-118.0000000	6240
CRANE	44102	NPS	YNP	531	37.7667000	-119.8167000	6644
DEMOCRAT	45002	FS	SQF	530	35.5316667	-118.0102778	2380
DINKEY	44521	FS	SNF	533	37.0663889	-119.0005556	5662

FANCHER CREEK	44516	State	FKU	528	36.9000000	-119.0083333	920
FENCE MDW	44503	FS	SNF	532	36.9613889	-119.0027778	5256
FOUNTAIN SPRINGS	44731	State	TUU	529	35.8922222	-118.0150000	210
HIGH SIERRA	44520	FS	SNF	533	37.3147222	-119.0005556	7403
HURLEY	44517	State	FKU	529	37.0155556	-119.0091667	1225
INDIAN WELLS CANYON	45015	FS/BLM	CDD	530	35.6850000	-117.0147222	4000
JAWBONE	45013	FS/BLM	CDD	530	35.2947222	-118.0036111	4300
JERSEYDALE	44105	FS	SNF	528	37.5436111	-119.0138889	3900
JOHNSONDALE	44707	FS	SQF	534	35.9705556	-118.0088889	4700
KETTLEMAN HILLS	44602	BLM	BBD	526	36.0333333	-120.0008333	810
LOS BANOS	44003	State	MMU	526	37.0547222	-121.0008333	350
MARIPOSA	44106	State	MMU	528	37.5011111	-119.0163889	2275
METCALF GAP	44209	State	MMU	528	37.4155556	-119.0127778	3300
MGROVE	44113	NPS	YNP	531	37.5127778	-119.0100000	6400
MIAMI	44110	FS	SNF	532	37.4191667	-119.0122222	4334
MILO	44708	State	TUU	529	36.2319444	-118.0144444	2002
MINARETS	44203	FS	SNF	532	37.4072222	-119.0055556	5340
MT TOM	44511	FS	SNF	533	37.3761111	-119.0027778	9018
MTREST	44505	FS	SNF	529	37.0541667	-119.0061111	4100
NORTHFORK	44204	FS	SNF	528	37.2330556	-119.0083333	2663
OAK OPENING	44717	FS	SQF	529	36.1752778	-118.0116667	3080
PANOCHÉ	44514	State	FKU	524	36.6300000	-120.0105556	500
PARK RIDGE	44713	NPS	KNP	532	36.7241667	-118.0155556	7540
PEPPERMINT	44726	FS	SQF	534	36.0720000	-118.5340000	7167
PINEHURST	44508	FS	SNF	529	36.6972222	-119.0002778	4060
PIUTE	45017	FS	SQF	534	35.4455556	-118.0044444	6440
RATTLESNAKE	44728	NPS	KNP	534	36.4069444	-118.0069444	8600
RIVER KERN	45016	FS	SQF	530	35.7775000	-118.0072222	3000
SAN LUIS NWR	44004	FWS	SLR	526	37.1822222	-120.0130556	65
SFORK	45012	BLM	BBD	530	35.9833000	-118.5833000	3000
SHADE QUARTER	44724	State	TUU	534	36.5672222	-118.0158333	4089
SHAVER	44522	State	FKU	528	37.1352778	-119.0041667	5800
SUGARLOAF	44729	NPS	KNP	534	36.7266667	-118.0111111	7950
TRIMMER	44510	FS	SNF	529	36.9111111	-119.0050000	1540
TUOLME	43611	NPS	YNP	531	37.8683333	-119.0052778	9200
UHL/HOT SPRINGS	44712	FS	SQF	529	35.8866667	-118.0105556	3720
VALLEY	44111	NPS	YNP	531	37.7500000	-119.5833000	4000
WALKER PASS	45014	BLM	BBD	530	35.6658333	-118.0008333	5572
WAWONA	44109	NPS	YNP	531	37.5333000	-119.6500000	3960
WOLVERTON	44732	NPS	KNP	534	36.4450000	-118.0116667	5240
WWOLF	43612	NPS	YNP	531	37.8511111	-119.0108333	8000

NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ACTON	45438	L Gov	LAC	506	34.4458333	-118.0033333	2600
ANACAPA ISLAND					34.0158333	-119.0058333	277
ARROYO GRANDE	44915	State	SLU	500	35.1919444	-120.0069444	615
BEVERLY HILLS	45442	L Gov	LAC	501	34.1250000	-118.0066667	1260
BIG PINES	45401	FS	ANF	507	34.3788889	-117.0113889	6917
BRANCH MOUNTAIN	44901	FS	LPF	525	35.1888889	-120.0013889	3770
CAMP 9	45441	L Gov	LAC	506	34.3616667	-118.0069444	4000
CARRIZO	44916	BLM	BBD	525	35.0963889	-119.0127778	2490
CASITAS	45308	FS	LPF	504	34.4080556	-119.0061111	640
CHEESEBORO	45313	NPS	SAMO	505	34.1847222	-118.0119444	1650
CHILAO	45436	FS	ANF	507	34.3316667	-118.0002778	5450

CHUCHUPATE	45302	FS	LPF	503	34.8063889	-119.0000000	4900
CLAREMONT	45443	L Gov	LAC	509	34.1369444	-117.7069440	1645
CLEAR CREEK	45405	FS	ANF	506	34.2711111	-118.0025000	3000
DEL VALLE	45445	L Gov	LAC	505	34.4311111	-118.0111111	1278
FIGUEROA	45201	FS	LPF	500	34.7344444	-120.0000000	3200
GRASS MOUNTAIN	45449	FS	ANF	506	34.6408333	-118.0066667	4626
HENNINGER FLATS	45439	L Gov	LAC	509	34.1930555	-118.0869444	2530
LA PANZA	44914	State	SLU	525	35.3811111	-120.0030556	1630
LAKE PALMDALE	45450	L Gov	LAC	519	34.5372222	-118.0016667	2980
LAS TABLAS	44904	State	SLU	520	35.6555556	-120.0152778	1300
LEO CARRILLO	45447	L Gov	LAC	501	34.0455556	-118.0155556	50
LITTLE TUJUNGA	45411	FS	ANF	509	34.2936111	-118.0058333	1390
LOS PRIETOS	45203	FS	LPF	500	34.5358333	-119.0130556	1020
MALIBU	45433	L Gov	LAC	505	34.0583333	-118.0105556	1575
MALIBU CANYON	45452	L Gov	LAC	505	34.0997222	-118.0116667	640
MILL CREEK	45435	FS	ANF	507	34.3902778	-118.0011111	5021
MONTECITO	45218	FS	LPF	501	34.4613889	-119.0105556	1500
NEWHALL PASS	45454	L Gov	LAC	505	34.3369444	-118.0086111	2135
OZENA	45303	FS	LPF	503	34.6819444	-119.0058333	3865
POPPY PARK	45440	L Gov	LAC	519	34.7325000	-118.0063889	2760
RICE VALLEY	45620	BLM	CDD	519	34.0608333	-114.0119444	820
ROSE VALLEY II	45314	FS	LPF	503	34.5433333	-119.0030556	3331
SADDLEBACK BUTTE	45444	L Gov	LAC	519	34.6847222	-117.0136111	2590
SAN RAFAEL HILLS	45451	L Gov	LAC	505	34.1941667	-118.0033333	1770
SANTA CRUZ ISLAND	45216	NPS	CNP	501	33.9958333	-119.0119444	250
SANTA FE	45437	L Gov	LAC	501	34.1208333	-117.0155556	500
SANTA ROSA ISLAND	45217	NPS	CNP	501	33.9777778	-120.0011111	1298
SAUGUS	45412	L Gov	LAC	505	34.4250000	-118.0086111	1450
TANBARK	45421	FS	ANF	509	34.2069444	-117.0125000	2600
TEMESCAL	45307	FS	ANF	505	34.4805556	-118.0125000	1140
TONNER CANYON	45453	L Gov	LAC	509	33.9475000	-117.0136111	1340
VANDENBERG	45220	FS	LPF	500	34.8033333	-120.0086111	1050
WARM SPRINGS L.O.	45426	FS	ANF	506	34.5958333	-118.0094444	4930
WHITAKER	45448	L Gov	LAC	506	34.5686111	-118.0122222	4120
WHITTIER HILLS PARK	45446	L Gov	WIT	501	33.9838889	-118.0000000	950
WILEY RIDGE	45335	L Gov	VNC	505	34.3758333	-118.0136111	1665

NWS Medford

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ASH CREEK	40244	FS	SHF	584	41.2769444	-121.0161111	3700
BLUE RIDGE (KNF)	40203	FS	KNF	586	41.2694444	-123.0030556	5880
BRAZZI RANCH	40242	State	SKU	588	41.6852778	-122.0097222	3000
CALLAHAN #2	40245	FS	KNF	587	41.2997222	-122.0136111	3911
CAMP SIX LOOKOUT	40101	FS	SRF	556	41.8308333	-123.0144444	3778
CANBY	40303	FS	MDF	590	41.4341667	-120.0144444	4312
COLD SPRINGS	40314	FS	MDF	590	41.7816666	-120.3183333	6313
COLLINS BALDY LO	40237	FS	KNF	587	41.7750000	-122.0158333	5493
CRAZY PEAK	40106	FS	SIF	621	41.9763889	-123.0100000	3970
DEVIL'S GARDEN	40309	State	LMU	590	41.5300000	-120.0111111	5022
INDIAN WELL	40233	NPS	BNP	590	41.7347222	-121.0088889	4770
JUANITA	40240	FS	KNF	589	41.8019444	-122.0016667	5400
LOWER KLAMATH	40310	FWS	LKR	589	41.9991667	-121.0116667	4098
MODOC NWR	40311	FWS	MDR	590	41.4588889	-120.0086111	4380
MT SHASTA	40217	FS	SHF	584	41.3155556	-122.0050000	3591
OAK KNOLL	40218	FS	KNF	587	41.8386111	-122.0138889	1940

QUARTZ HILL	40239	State	SKU	587	41.5997222	-122.0152778	4238
ROUND MOUNTAIN	40221	FS	MDF	590	41.4272222	-121.0075000	5258
RUSH CREEK	40312	FS	MDF	590	41.2880556	-120.0144444	4800
SAWYERS BAR	40222	FS	KNF	586	41.3011111	-123.0019444	2192
SLATER BUTTE	40225	FS	KNF	585	41.8586111	-123.0058333	4670
SOMES BAR	40231	FS	SRF	586	41.3900000	-123.0080556	920
TIMBER MOUNTAIN	40306	FS	MDF	590	41.6294444	-121.0047222	4960
VAN BREMMER	40243	FS	KNF	589	41.6430556	-121.0130556	4928
WEED	40228	State	SKU	588	41.4788889	-122.0075000	2930

NWS San Francisco Bay Area/Monterey

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ARROYO_SECO	44301	FS	LPF	522	36.2300000	-121.0080556	980
BARNABE	42308	L Gov	MRN	559	38.0280556	-122.0116667	810
BEN LOMOND	43809	State	CZU	549	37.1316667	-122.0027778	2630
BIG ROCK	42310	L Gov	MRN	559	38.0394444	-122.0094444	1500
BIG SUR	44302	FS	LPF	521	36.2355556	-121.0130556	450
BLACK DIAMOND	43008	L Gov	EBY	547	37.9500000	-121.0147222	1600
BRADLEY	44303	State	BEU	523	35.8644444	-120.0133333	540
BRIONES	43010	L Gov	EBY	547	37.9341667	-122.0019444	1450
CALAVERAS RD	43405	L Gov	SCU	547	37.5530556	-121.0138889	1230
CORRALITOS	43802	State	CZU	550	36.9911111	-121.0130556	450
DIABLO GRANDE	43502	State	SCU	546	37.3291667	-121.0047222	1850
FORT ORD 2	44321	BLM	BBD	521	36.6269444	-121.0130556	490
HASTINGS	44319	State	BEU	522	36.3888889	-121.0091667	1824
HAWKEYE	42010	State	LNU	559	38.7816667	-122.0152778	2000
HERNANDEZ	44409	State	BEU	524	36.3830556	-120.0141667	3752
HOLLISTER	44406	State	BEU	523	36.8422222	-121.0058333	423
HUNTER LIGGET	44317	FS	LPF	522	36.0116667	-121.0038889	1100
LAHONDA	43304	State	CZU	549	37.3052778	-122.0041667	425
LAS TRAMPAS	43009	L Gov	EBY	547	37.8338889	-122.0011111	1760
LIVERMORE	43406	State	SCU	547	37.7119444	-121.0133333	800
LOS ALTOS	43912	L Gov	SCU	549	37.3580556	-122.0022222	645
LOS GATOS	43913	L Gov	SCU	549	37.2027778	-121.0155556	2000
LOS VAQUEROS	43013	L Gov	SCU	547	37.7883333	-121.0122222	1100
MALLORY RIDGE	43011	L Gov	SCU	547	37.8172222	-121.0127778	2040
MT DIABLO	43012	L Gov	SCU	547	37.8672222	-121.0150000	3849
OAKLAND NORTH	43402	L Gov	EBY	550	37.8652778	-122.0036111	1300
OAKLAND SOUTH	43403	L Gov	EBY	550	37.7836111	-122.0025000	1000
PARKFIELD	44310	State	BEU	524	35.8988889	-120.0069444	1535
PINNACLES	44410	NPS	PIP	524	36.4708333	-121.0022222	1322
POLE_MTN	42008	State	SNU	562	38.5000000	123.1199999	2204
POVERTY	43914	L Gov	SCU	550	37.4430556	-121.7705560	2350
PULGAS	43309	L Gov	CZU	549	37.4750000	-122.0047222	644
ROSE PEAK	43404	L Gov	EBY	547	37.5019444	-121.0122222	3060
SANTA RITA	44408	BLM	BBD	524	36.3477778	-120.0097222	5000
SANTA ROSA	42009	State	LNU	559	38.4788889	-122.0116667	560
SPRING VALLEY	43308	L Gov	CZU	549	37.5625000	-122.0072222	1075
WOODACRE 2	42309	L Gov	MRN	559	37.9905556	-122.0105556	1400

NWS Phoenix

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
FISH CREEK MTN.	45802	BLM	CDD	310	32.9902778	-116.0011111	760
SQUAW LAKE	45801	BLM	CCD	310	32.9077778	-114.0077778	300

NWS Reno

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ASH VALLEY	40726	BLM	SUD	572	41.0519444	-120.0113889	5100
BEAR FLAT	40313	FS	MDF	590	41.2952778	-120.0050000	5889
BENTON	43708	FS	INF	518	37.8430556	-118.0077778	5450
BLUE DOOR	40725	BLM	NOD	572	41.0547222	-120.0055556	5615
BOGARD	40703	FS	LNF	598	40.5980556	-121.0011111	5686
BRIDGEPORT	43702	FS	HTF	576	38.2719444	-119.0047222	6650
BULL FLAT	40728	BLM	NOD	572	40.4808333	-120.0016667	4395
CRESTVIEW	43709	FS	INF	518	37.7450000	-118.0163889	7600
DOG VALLEY	41302	FS	TYF	450	39.5619444	-120.0005556	5976
DOYLE	40724	BLM	CDD	450	40.0266667	-120.0016667	4240
GORDON	40730	FS	LNF	598	40.7586111	-120.0147222	6200
GRASSHOPPER	40721	State	LMU	598	40.7827778	-120.0127778	6050
HORSE LAKE	40727	BLM	NOD	572	40.6305556	-120.0083333	5100
JUNIPER CREEK	40308	BLM	NOD	572	41.3322222	-120.0077778	4372
LAUFMAN	40709	FS	PNF	599	40.1416667	-120.0058333	4800
MARKLEEVILLE	42802	FS	TOF	576	38.6833333	-119.0127778	5501
MEYERS	42607	FS	TMU	542	38.8488889	-120.0002778	6310
PIERCE	40915	FS	PNF	598	40.2461111	-120.0105556	5811
RAVENDALE	40714	BLM	NOD	572	40.7308333	-120.0050000	5298
ROCK CREEK	43710	FS	INF	518	37.5513889	-118.0111111	7040
STAMPEDE	41310	FS	TNF	541	39.4833333	-120.0011111	6600
WALKER	43707	FS	TYF	576	38.5652778	-119.0075000	5440

NWS San Diego

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ALPINE FIRE STATION	45701	FS	CNF	509	32.8344444	-116.0122222	2053
AMMO DUMP	45738	DOD	MCP	508	33.3813889	-117.0047222	1068
ANZA	45616	State	RRU	513	33.5550000	-116.0111111	3920
APPLE VALLEY	45117	BLM	CDD	514	34.6000000	-117.1666666	3100
BANNING	45601	FS	BDF	510	33.9750000	-116.9130000	3750
BEAUMONT	45617	State	RRU	510	33.9305556	-116.0155556	2680
BELL CANYON	45735	L Gov	ORC	509	33.5416667	-117.0097222	700
BIG PINE FLAT	45102	FS	BDF	511	34.3194444	-117.0000000	6861
BURNS CANYON	45125	BLM	CDD	516	34.2083333	-116.0102778	6000
CAMERON FIRE STATION	45704	FS	CNF	513	32.7211111	-116.0075000	3443
CAMP ELLIOTT	45741	DOD	MFD	508	32.8591667	-117.0016667	539
CASE SPRINGS	45731	DOD	MCP	508	33.4452778	-117.0069444	2320
CLARK TRN CTR	45624	State	RRU	509	33.8766667	-117.0050000	1720
CMP TARGET RANGE	45732	DOD	MPC	508	33.3722222	-117.3589000	917
CONVERSE	45105	FS	BDF	511	34.1941667	-116.0150000	5618
CORONA_FIRE STATION	45618	FS	CNF	509	33.8750000	-117.0088889	620
CRANSTON	45603	FS	BDF	512	33.7402778	-116.0138889	1950
DESCANSO FIRE STA	45707	FS	CNF	513	32.8572222	-116.0102778	3555
DEVORE	45113	State	BDU	510	34.2211111	-117.0066667	2080
EL CARISO FIRE STA	45619	FS	CNF	509	33.6472222	-117.0066667	2730
FAWNSKIN	45101	FS	BDF	511	34.2661111	-116.0147222	6900
FREMONT CANYON	45736	L Gov	ORC	509	33.8080556	-117.0116667	1781
GOOSE VALLEY_FIRE	45724	FS	CNF	509	33.0741667	-116.0138889	1530
JULIAN	45708	State	MVU	513	33.0758333	-116.0097222	4240

KEENWILD	45604	FS	BDF	513	33.6666667	-116.0127778	4920
KENWORTHY	45605	FS	BDF	513	33.6178000	-116.6175000	4600
LAS FLORES	45733	DOD	MCP	508	33.2888889	-117.0072222	100
LYTLE CREEK	45108	FS	BDF	510	34.2338889	-117.0077778	2792
MILL CREEK	45109	FS	BDF	510	34.0836111	-117.0005556	2950
MORMON ROCKS	45114	FS	BDF	511	34.3175000	-117.0083333	3300
MT LAGUNA	45709	FS	CNF	513	32.8811111	-116.0069444	5760
OAK GROVE FIRE STA	45710	FS	CNF	513	33.3855556	-116.0130556	2752
PALOMAR	45740	FS	CNF	513	33.3516667	-116.0141667	5530
PINE HILLS FIRE STA	45711	FS	CNF	513	33.0163889	-116.0105556	3800
PINYON CANYON	45615	BLM	CDD	513	33.5778000	-116.4539000	4060
POTRERO	45730	State	MVU	513	32.6061111	-116.0100000	2350
RANCHITA	45729	State	MVU	513	33.2122222	-116.0083333	4180
ROCK CAMP	45111	FS	BDF	511	34.2880556	-117.0033333	4900
SAN MIGUEL	45737	FWS	TSR	509	32.6850000	-116.0161111	425
SANTA ROSA PLATEAU	45623	State	RRU	513	33.5286111	-117.0036111	1980
STRAWBERRY	45110	FS	BDF	511	34.2410000	-117.2470000	6150
TALEGA	45739	DOD	MCP	508	33.4780556	-117.0080556	1203
TEMESCAL FIRE STA	45611	FS	CNF	509	33.7625000	-117.0066667	1125
VALLEY CENTER	45734	State	MVU	509	33.2261111	-116.0163889	1370
VALYERMO	45423	FS	ANF	514	34.4455556	-117.0141667	3780
VISTA GRANDE	45612	FS	BDF	513	33.8370000	-116.8080000	4925
YUCCA VALLEY	45112	State	BDU	516	34.1233333	-116.0066667	3260

NWS Sacramento

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
ALDER SPRINGS	41101	FS	MNF	595	39.6513889	-122.0119444	4555
ARBUCKLE BASIN	40632	State	SHU	595	40.4377778	-122.0136111	1900
BALD MOUNTAIN	42603	FS	ENF	538	38.9055556	-120.0113889	4613
BANGOR	41201	State	BTU	596	39.3983333	-121.0066667	840
BEAVER	42601	FS	ENF	538	38.4883333	-120.0052778	5000
BEN BOLT	42612	State	AEU	552	38.6013889	-120.0155556	1500
BLUMTN	43203	FS	STF	540	38.3400000	-120.3750000	6067
BROOKS	42202	State	LNU	558	38.7194444	-122.0022222	360
BUCK MEADOWS	43603	FS	STF	539	37.8233333	-120.0013889	3200
CARPENTER RIDGE	41213	State	BTU	597	40.0686111	-121.0094444	4812
CASHMAN	40916	FS	PNF	599	40.0016667	-120.0150000	4447
CHESTER	40904	FS	LNF	597	40.2897222	-121.0013889	4525
CHICO	41210	State	BTU	596	39.7119444	-121.0127778	230
COHASSET	41211	State	BTU	596	39.8700000	-121.0127778	1670
COLBY MTN	40801	FS	LNF	597	40.1500000	-121.5330000	6004
CORNING	40814	State	TGU	595	39.9388889	-122.0027778	294
COUNTY LINE	41410	BLM	NOD	557	39.0188889	-122.0066667	2085
DUNCAN PEAK	41901	FS	TNF	536	39.1438889	-120.0083333	7100
EAGLE PEAK	40802	FS	MNF	595	39.9277778	-122.0108333	3713
ESPERANZA	43208	State	TCU	539	38.2430556	-120.0083333	2512
GREEN SPRING	43613	State	TCU	539	37.8330556	-120.0083333	1020
GRIZZLY FLATS	42613	FS	ENF	538	38.6197222	-120.0091667	3760
HELL HOLE	42608	FS	ENF	538	39.0716667	-120.0069444	5240
HIGH GLADE LOOKOUT	41402	FS	MNF	595	39.2083333	-122.0133333	4840
JARBO GAP	41214	State	BTU	599	39.7358333	-121.0080556	2490
KONOCTI	41411	State	LNU	558	38.9136111	-122.0116667	2100
LADDER BUTTE	40723	FS	LNF	597	40.8072222	-121.0047222	5750
LASSEN LODGE	40815	State	TGU	597	40.3441667	-121.0116667	4100
LINCOLN	41907	State	NEU	554	38.8825000	-121.0044444	200

MANZANITA LAKE	40609	FS	LN	597	40.5400000	-121.0094444	5660
MOUNT ZION	42701	State	AEU	552	38.3894444	-120.0108333	2960
MTELIZ	43605	FS	STF	539	38.0630556	-120.0038889	4933
OAK BOTTOM	40636	NPS	YNP	595	40.6505556	-122.0100000	1422
OAK MTN	40635	FS	SHF	593	41.0063889	-121.0163889	2670
OWENS CAMP	42611	FS	ENF	538	38.7333333	-120.0038889	5240
PIKE CNTY LO	41701	FS	PNF	599	39.4750000	-121.0033333	3714
PILOT HILL	42609	State	AEU	552	38.8325000	-121.0000000	1200
PINCRS	43606	FS	STF	540	38.1888888	-120.0002777	5600
QUINCY	40910	FS	PNF	599	39.9733333	-120.0155556	3652
READER RANCH	41809	State	NEU	535	39.3036111	-121.0019444	2025
REDDING	40611	FS/State	SHU	595	40.5158333	-122.0047222	500
SACRAMENTO NWR	41102	FWS	MNF	595	39.4172222	-122.0027778	120
SADDLEBACK	41304	FS	SHF	536	39.6375000	-120.0141667	6670
SECRET TOWN	41808	State	NEU	535	39.1836111	-120.0147222	2720
SEEDORCHARD	41908	FS	TNF	536	39.0913889	-120.0119444	4355
SIMS	40618	FS	SHF	593	41.0750000	-122.0061111	2400
SMITH PEAK	40911	FS	PNF	599	39.8630000	-120.5260000	7688
SOLDIER MTN	40630	State	SHU	593	40.9258333	-121.0097222	3710
STONYFORD	41503	FS	MNF	595	39.3669444	-122.0094444	1257
SUGARLOAF (SHF)	40614	FS	SHF	592	40.9166667	-122.0072222	3214
THOMES CREEK	40816	State	TGU	595	39.8644444	-122.0100000	1100
WESTWOOD	40719	State	LMU	597	40.3066667	-120.0150000	5800
WHISKEYTOWN HQ	40628	NPS	WNP	595	40.6191666	-122.5341666	1311
WHITECLOUD	41806	FS	TNF	536	39.3166667	-120.0138889	4320
WHITMORE	40615	State	SHU	596	40.6202778	-121.0150000	2454
YOLLA BOLLA	40511	FS	SHF	594	40.3383333	-123.0008333	4768
ZION	42701	State	AEU	552	38.3910000	-120.6517500	2960

NWS Las Vegas

STATION NAME WIMS	WIMS ID	AGENCY	UNIT	FCST_ZONE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEV
GOLDEN	45119	BLM	CDD	543	35.0000000	-115.6666666	4100
GRANITE MTN.	45124	BLM	CDD	543	34.5355555	-117.0258333	4720
HORSE THIEF SPRING	45129	BLM	CDD	543	35.7705556	-115.0150000	5000
LOST HORSE	45614	NPS	JOTR	543	34.0177778	-116.0030556	4200
MID HILLS	45128	BLM	CDD	543	35.1230556	-115.0066667	5413
MOJAVE RIVER SINK	45122	BLM	CDD	543	35.0530556	-116.0011111	950
OAK CREEK	44804	FS	INF	517	36.8425000	-118.0041667	4855
OPAL MOUNTAIN	45127	BLM	CDD	543	35.1541667	-117.0027778	3240
OWENS VALLEY	44803	FS	INF	517	37.3900000	-118.0091667	4640
PANAMINT	44806	BLM	CDD	543	36.1202778	-117.0013889	6880
SALT WELLS	45120	BLM	CDD	543	35.8333333	-117.5833333	2540

APPENDIX G - Contact Information for WFOs and PSUs

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PSU/PREDICTIVE SERVICES UNIT

6101 Airport Road, Redding, CA 96002-9423

FAX Number: (530) 226-2742

Web Site Address: <http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/index.htm>

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PSU/PREDICTIVE SERVICES UNIT

2524 Mulberry Street, Riverside, CA 92501-2200

FAX Number: (90951) 276-6439

Web Site Address: <http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/index.htm>

EUREKA NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

300 Startare Drive, Eureka, CA 95501-6000

FAX Number: (707) 443-6195

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/eureka>

HANFORD/SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

900 Foggy Bottom Road, Hanford, CA 93230-5236

FAX Number: (559) 584-1152

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/hanford>

LAS VEGAS NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

7851 S. Dean Martin Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89139-6628

FAX Number: (702) 263-9759

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/lasvegas>

LOS ANGELES/OXNARD NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

520 N. Elevar Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

FAX Number: (805) 988-6613

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/losangeles>

MEDFORD NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

4003 Cirrus Drive, Medford, OR 97504

FAX Number: (541) 776-4333

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/medford>

PHOENIX NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

PAB 500, P.O. Box 52025, Phoenix, AZ 85072-2025

FAX Number: (602) 267-8051

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/phoenix>

RENO NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

2350 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV 89512-3900

FAX Number: (775) 673-8110

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/reno>

SACRAMENTO NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

3310 El Camino Ave, Room 227, Sacramento, CA 95821

FAX Number: (916) 979-3052

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/sacramento>

SAN DIEGO NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

11440 W. Bernardo Ct, Ste 230, San Diego, CA 92127

FAX Number: (858) 675-8712

Web Site Address: <http://www.weather.gov/sandiego>

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA/MONTEREY NWS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

21 Grace Hopper Ave, Stop 5, Monterey, CA 93943

FAX Number: (831) 656-1747 Web Site Address: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr>

CHARTER

CWCG - NWS

California Fire Weather Program Assessment Team

INTRODUCTION:

The California Fire Weather Program Assessment Team (FWPAT) is a joint California Wildfire Coordinating Group (CWCG) - National Weather Service (NWS) team. The goal of the FWPAT is to maintain and continuously improve the high quality fire weather and fire potential predictive program in California.

AUTHORITY:

This Charter operates within the framework of the National Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services among the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior, and the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Weather Service of the United States Department of Commerce.

MEMBERSHIP:

The FWPAT is comprised of:

- NWS Meteorologists in Charge (MIC) or management representatives from Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) serving California
- NWS Western Region Headquarters Fire Weather Program Manager.
- Fire Managers representing the Wildland Firefighting agencies that make up the California Wildfire Coordinating Group (<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/administrative/cwcg.htm>)
- Agency Meteorologists from the Predictive Service Units (PSU) in California.

Team Leadership will rotate biennially between the NWS and CWCG. The NWS leads will normally be the Meteorologists in Charge at the Sacramento and Los Angeles/Oxnard offices. The CWCG lead will normally be the CWCG chairperson. The next FWPAT team lead will be determined at the fall meeting, with the new lead expected to assume duties at the following spring meeting.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The FWPAT will monitor the annual operations of the fire weather program in California, from both the NWS and the PSU. The goal is to ensure the fire weather program meets customer needs, as defined by the agencies in CWCG and the NWS. In this sense, the FWPAT will evaluate fire weather and fire potential products and services for California. The FWPAT will recommend changes as appropriate,

with the goal of continuous improvement to the annual operations of the program. These agreed upon changes should be outlined in the California Fire Weather Annual Operating Plan (AOP).

The team leader will be responsible for meeting management, including setting dates, location, agenda, documentation, and sharing minutes of the meeting with other members. The lead will also be the first point of contact to resolve any interagency disagreements.

PROCEDURE:

The FWPAT will normally meet bi-annually, in the Spring and Fall, with the following purposes and responsibilities:

The NWS and CWCG will work to reach a consensus agreement on all matters related to the program. When an issue cannot be resolved by consensus, the issue will be brought forward to the Chairman of CWCG and NWS Western Regional Director. Issues from the field user groups should be compiled and shared with FWPAT members prior to each meeting. Meeting minutes will be prepared within 30 days following the meeting and shared with FWPAT members.

If it is mutually agreed that insufficient issues exist to meet twice in a given year, a single annual meeting can be undertaken in the spring to complete the AOP. Similarly, if additional meetings are warranted they may be scheduled. It is not required for all MICs or designees to attend FWPAT meetings. The WFO Los Angeles/Oxnard and/or WFO Sacramento MIC may serve as a proxy for other MICs, as may the NWS Western Region Headquarters Fire Weather Program Manager. Needed MIC attendance will be determined through mutual agreement between the Western Region Headquarters Fire Weather Program Manager and the MICs.

- A. **Fall Meeting:** The Fall meeting will evaluate the past season's fire weather services from the PSU's and WFO's and, if necessary, recommend changes. Evaluation will include verification of routine products as well as red flag warnings, suggestions to improve training, IMET support and other "lessons learned". Evaluations and recommendations shall be documented in the meeting minutes and shared with the FWPAT members no later than 30 days following the meeting. The report should be finalized by the team leader.
- B. **Spring Meeting:** The Spring meeting will review the planned operation of the fire weather program for the upcoming season, and determine which, if any recommendations from the previous fall meeting will be incorporated into the new AOP. This will include a review of the WFO's and PSU's roles as they relate to a quality interagency working relationship. The NWS will provide the names of Incident Meteorologists (IMET), coordination procedures and other pertinent information regarding the fire weather program. The CWCG representatives will provide suggestions and comments on the fire weather program, and notification of any changes to their programs. Agreed upon changes will be reflected in the minutes of the meeting and in the AOP.

In-person FWPAT meetings will normally alternate between locations in southern and northern California.

It is generally expected that meteorologists from PSU's and the WFO's will communicate openly when user complaints arise. Given the life threatening nature of fire weather and fire events, this communication should be continuous and frequent, particularly during high fire season and when critical fire weather is predicted to occur.

DEFINITIONS:

Definitions for all terminology used in this document and the California Fire Weather Annual Operating Plan can be found in the Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology published by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group: <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/pubs/glossary/index.htm>

APPROVED:

This Agreement shall be effective on the date of the last signature below and will remain in effect for a period of five-years from the date of the last signature. Other terms and provisions not specified here follow those outlined in the National Interagency Agreement as referenced in the Authority section above.

Dated Signature on File

_____ Date: _____

Chief
Meteorological Services Division
Western Region
National Weather Service

Dated Signature on File

_____ Date: _____

Chair
California Wildfire Coordinating Group