



OPERATIONS BRANCH PRESENTATION

Presented By:

DC Wagaman, AC Johnson, AC Aldrich, AC Peck, AC Wilbourn, BC Carollo, BC Vestal
& AC Richards (Calfire)



Branch Pillars

- Communication
 - Ensure information flows clearly and promptly. Create open channels for feedback and clarifying questions.
- Unity
 - Break down silos and strengthen cross-team collaboration. Build a common sense of purpose and belonging.
- Performance
 - Improve efficiency, reliability, and accountability in our service. Clear ownership of tasks and outcomes.

Operations Divisions

- Wellness/Health/Safety
- Emergency Fire & EMS Incident Responses
 - A Shift
 - B Shift
 - C Shift
- SRFECC (Fire Dispatch)

WELLNESS, HEALTH & SAFETY DIVISION FOCUS GROUPS

SAFETY OFFICER

- Operational Safety Officer
 - Currently Staffed With 13
 - Investigative Assistance
 - Active Training Program
- Shift Safety Officer Proposal
 - Dedicated On Scene Safety Officer
 - Support Incident Commander
 - Lithium Ion Fires
 - 48/96 Schedule

NERIS REPORTING SYSTEM

- SME for the Program
- Streamline Opportunities
- Future Exposure Reporting
- Data Collection

LITHIUM ION FIRES

- Interface with Working Group
- Decontamination Guidelines
- Operational Protocols
- Networking
- September “All Hands” training

WELFARE CHECKS

- Work Comp Liaison
 - Check In With Work Comp Employees
 - Help Facilitate Work Comp Paperwork
 - Educate Employees
 - Identify Gaps and Opportunities

STATION EXPOSURE REDUCTION

- 10 Year Cancer Reduction Plan
- Multi-Division Effort
- Station Opportunities
 - Turnouts in App Bay
 - Gyms in App Bay
 - Plymovent
 - Station Modifications/Upgrades

COMMANDING THE MAYDAY

- Low Frequency – High Risk
- History Here at Metro Fire
- Command & Control Focus
- Training and Education
- Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) Integration

A-Shift Commander

Chief Carollo

Communication & Unity

- Pathways and formats have been streamlined across all three shifts through some standardization and defined expectations.
- Shift Commander operations briefs, BC morning messages, operations meetings, professional staff meetings and command staffing meeting minute sharing, BC quarterly meetings.

Performance & Focus Areas

- Support mechanisms in place for grass roots effort in training and operations at task/tactical, and strategic levels.
- A shift command group focus areas:
 - B5A-BC Slone- Retirement Protocol
 - B7A- BC Montgomery- RIC Management
 - B9A- OC BC Manfredi- Peer support and member Welfare
 - B13A- BC Reed- AAR recirculation and improvement in its processes
 - B14A- BC Daly- Behavior health POC/ Metro IMT and regional IMT/Law liaison

B-Shift Commander

Chief Johnson

Communication

- Maintain an information-sharing conduit from the executive team to fire stations.
- Provide timely, accurate, and relevant information to operations members, stakeholders, and the community.
- Allow for information to pass up through the organization from all levels.

Unity

- Build relationships to support a shared vision, goals, and objectives.
- Reinforce a cohesive team that functions as one.
- Promote collaboration and mutual support across all levels.

Performance

- Emphasize delivering the best service to the community.
- Foster growth through positive reinforcement and achievable expectations.
- Encourage continuous improvement and accountability.

Focus Areas

- Battalion Training Sites
- Fire Reserve Program
- Rapid Intervention Crew Management
- EV, Stored Energy & Lithium Ion Fires
- BC Vehicle Specifications
- Metro Incident Management Team
- VMP Burns
- Wildland Operations

Wildland Team

Chief C. Vestal

Wildland Operations

Chief C. Vestal



Practical Application of the Operations Branch Pillars

- Communication = Establishing Expectations and creating “Organizational Command Presence”
 - Classroom training conducted in May
- Unity = Intra and Inter Agency Collaboration
 - Stakeholder and Partner Agency integration is the foundation of the California Fire Service and its All Hazard Incident Management (AHIM)
- Performance = Professionalism
 - Our actions will meet the stated expectations of Metro Fire for our communities in the Sacramento Region and Cities of Rancho Cordova and Citrus Heights, in alignment with the California Fire Service and local stakeholders

Communicating Expectations and Establishing “Organizational Command Presence”

- Expectations for Wildland Operations
 - All suppression members received training during the month of May based on operational decision making rather than providing direct policy
 - Nearly 800 hours of training cadre provided
- From Initial Attack to Expanding Incidents:
In the wildland and beyond
 - Through an emphasis on wildland firefighting, interdisciplinary considerations for all hazard incident response and deployment was reinforced through multi-site SimTable exercises
- Establishing Organizational Command Presence
 - Clear expectations were provided to ensure consistent decision making across all shifts and battalions at the strategic, tactical, and task levels

Unity Through Collaboration

- Wildland Operations requires the coordination of our Administration and Support Services Branches
 - Director of Training / Assistant Chief Chris Greene, under the Support Services Branch and Deputy Chief Joe Fiorica
 - Information Technology Director Mat Roseberry and Communications Unit Supervisor Alex Ybarra, via authorization of Support Service Branch Deputy Chief Adam Mitchell
- Stakeholder Involvement is crucial
 - Sacramento County Regional Parks Department
- Partner Agency coordination is invaluable
 - California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Amador - El Dorado Unit (AEU) which we have overlapping responsibility areas
 - Approximately 5,000 hours of personnel hours
 - \$1.5 million in VHF communications devices

Assistant Chief Kalan Richards

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Amador - El Dorado Unit



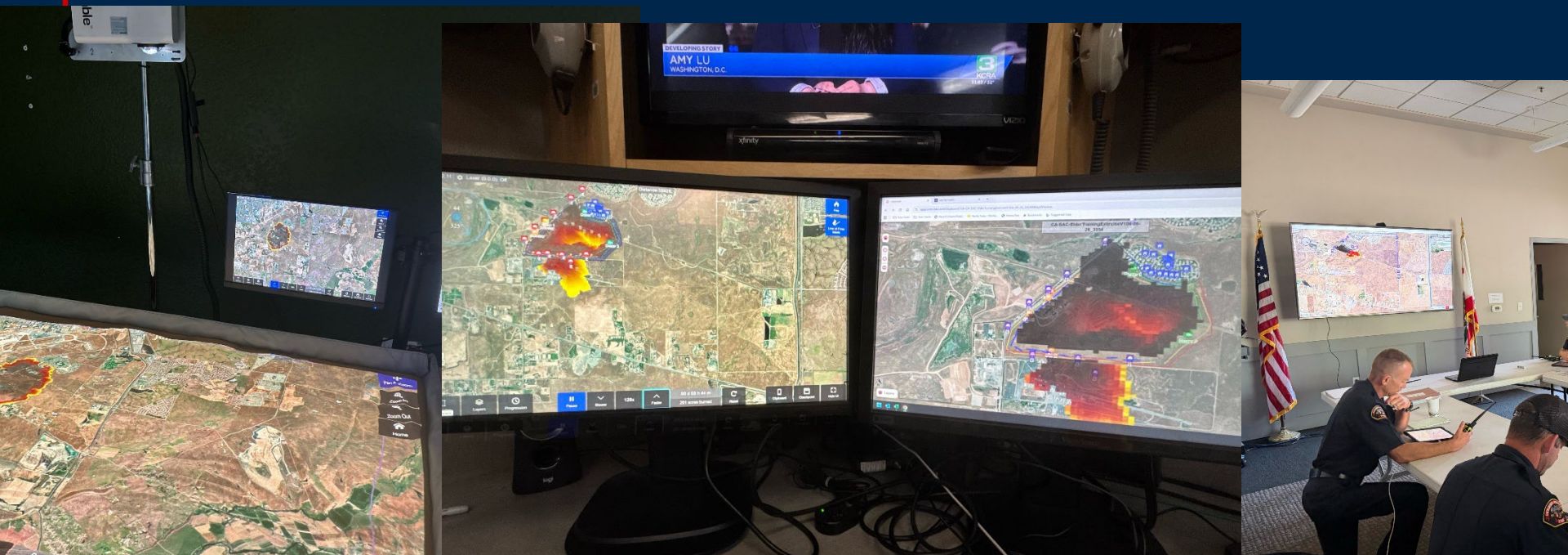
Performance is Professionalism

The ultimate determinate of our success is professional service delivery to the residents and visitors to Cities of Rancho Cordova and Citrus Heights, and the unincorporated Sacramento County Communities within the jurisdiction of Metro Fire

- **Vegetation Management Plan / Training Burns**
 - An opportunity to evaluate our ability to apply our training delivery, operational capabilities, and interagency coordination with realistic live fire conditions in a semi-controlled environment
 - Over 400 acres in 2026 – our most ever
- **Incident Response and Training Deployments**
 - Initial Attack Response
 - Training Strike Team Deployments
 - IAST3 to Yolo County / CDF LNU

2026 Wildland Operations Positive and Realized Outcomes

Classroom training provided to ~ 600 suppression members including communicating expectations and establishing command – on scene and organizational



2026 Wildland Operations Positive and Realized Outcomes

Coordination with Partner Agencies and Stakeholders provide a training value that is immeasurable in dollars, realistic hours, or future benefit to the District



2026 Wildland Operations

Positive and Realized Outcomes

Through the previously identified coordination with CALFIRE AEU approximately 200 VHF portables will be received in exchange for 30 800 MHz radios to increase interoperability locally with CALFIRE AEU and NEU plus our statewide response



2026 Wildland Operations

The Operational Pillars of Communication, Unity, and Performance were applied throughout the initial phases of the 2026 Wildland Operations goals. We will continue to move these forward in collaboration with our stakeholders and partnering agencies and our community, which includes the local media.

<https://youtu.be/6-dO1cgoMaA>

2026 Wildland Operations

Remaining Goals

- Final deployment of communications devices to all Type 3 and out of Operational Area resources and Overhead
- Deployment of equipment, such as ALS EMS gear, to all deployable Type 3 and OES apparatus
- Succession Planning – provide opportunities to those who are “next up” at Metro Fire

2026 Wildland Operations

Notable Personnel

- Battalion Chief Jason Vestal
- Captain Joshua Leonard
- Captain Taylor Loheit
- Captain Joseph Schmitt
- Captain Neil Weitzel
- Metro Fire Wildland Team



C-Shift Commander

Chief Aldrich

Communication

- Operations Brief
- Battalion Chief Morning Messages
- Station Visits
- Operations Chiefs Meetings
- Operations and Professional Staff Notes
- Citrus Heights and Rancho Cordova City Council Meetings
- Battalion Chief Quarterly Meetings
- County Operations Chiefs Meetings

Teamwork/Unity

- Regular Communications
- AC/BC & BC/Captain Meetings and Training
- Emergency Incidents
- Focus Areas
 - Staffing
 - Engine Team
 - Pre-Plans
 - Facilities
 - Cooperators Meeting
 - Tank Farm & Foam Operations
 - Command and Control Training
 - Tablet Command

Performance

- AARs
- Company and Battalion Drills
- Strategies and Tactics Discussions
- Command and Control Training

Goals

- Radio Communication Improvements
- More Command and Control Training
- More Expanding Incidents Training
- More Multi-Company Drills
 - Across battalions
 - With outside agencies
 - Command and Control component

SRFECC (Fire Dispatch)

Chief Wilbourn



SRFECC (Fire Dispatch)

The 1st First Responder

Every Emergency Response Begins Here:

- ~250,000 incidents and 500,000 phone calls annually, a 40% increase since 2012
- 1,500,000 residents served across 1000 square miles of Sacramento County
- 24/7 Regional Coordination

Priority 1: Internal Excellence

Maintain a culture grounded in trust, grace, accountability, and ownership. Recruit, retain, develop and support our workforce. Provide clear performance expectations and leadership visibility.

- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Unity
- ✓ Performance

Priority 2: Future Readiness

Position the Center for the future by modernizing our dispatch technology, enhancing cybersecurity, improving system resiliency, and maintaining continuity of operations.

- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Unity
- ✓ Performance

Priority 3: External Engagement

Strengthen our relationships with member agencies, field crews, stakeholders, and the communities we serve through collaboration, transparency, and exceptional service.

- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Unity
- ✓ Performance

Our Commitment

To provide every responder with the information, coordination, and support they need to safely and effectively serve our communities.



Operational Updates

- A Shift
- B Shift
- C Shift