



This document outlines the response expectations of Yolo Operational Area due to wildfires.

# Wildfire Hazard Annex

An Annex to the County of  
Yolo Emergency Operations  
Plan

Version v 2.0

Revised: August 2024

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## **PROMULGATION**

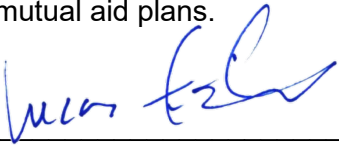
This Emergency Support Function Annex to the County of Yolo Emergency Operations Plan describes how Yolo County will manage an emergency incident or disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and restoration related to this Emergency Support Function. All Primary and Support agencies identified as having assigned responsibilities in this Emergency Support Function shall perform the emergency tasks described, including preparing and maintaining Standard Operating Guidelines and Procedures and carrying out the training, exercises, and plan maintenance needed to support the plan.

This Emergency Annex plan was developed using the Comprehensive Planning Guide 101 version 3 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and California's emergency planning guidance documents. Adoption will occur following the established maintenance schedule; however, the plan may be modified in the interim without prior approval and formal adoption under the direction of the Director of Emergency Operations. The revised plan will be relayed digitally to all Primary and Support agencies with assigned responsibilities in this Emergency Support Function. The Primary assigned agency will coordinate the review and update of the plan with the Support agencies as needed at least every three years. This Emergency Support Function plan supersedes any previous versions.

This Emergency Support Function Annex applies to Primary and Support agencies within Yolo County who are assigned responsibilities by Emergency Support Function of the All-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan and identified within the Emergency Support Function Annex.

This plan replaces previous annexes of the same or similar title.

The County of Yolo Board of Supervisors chairperson will formally promulgate this annex. The County Ordinance empowers the County Board of Supervisors to review and approve emergency and mutual aid plans.



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Lucas Frerichs  
Chair of the Board of Supervisors

9/10/2024

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Date:

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# **SECTION 1.0: OVERVIEW**

## **1.1 Intended Audience**

This annex aims to establish priorities and responsibilities and assign tasks for coordinated response operations in mitigating effects upon life and property during major interface wildfire response emergencies within the Yolo County Operational Area (OA). This annex is for immediate use and is designed to provide agencies within Yolo County with specific roles and responsibilities for implementing wildfire response. The Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (YCOES), in coordination with county departments, cities, and tribes, will direct the implementation of this guidance to address emergency services deployment systems dealing with extreme interface wildfire conditions.

Response operations will be based on the National Incident Management System/Standardized Emergency Management System (NIMS/SEMS) and are consistent with actions described in the Yolo County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). For this document, the term “wildfire” pertains to any controlled or uncontrolled wildland fire that may impact the residents of Yolo County.

## **1.2 Scope**

The Yolo County OA Wildfire Annex applies to preparedness, response, and recovery operation elements during major disasters and to all Yolo County OA public, private, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) with operational responsibilities in a mass wildfire event. The OA is defined as an intermediate level of the state emergency services organization, consisting of a county and all political subdivisions within the county area.

This document intends to provide strategies during mass wildfire events in Yolo County. This Annex supports the activation of the Yolo County OA Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the City EOCs. Coordination and resources of a mass wildfire impacting the county within the county’s geographical boundaries will be coordinated at the OA level. The plan does not provide, supersede, or replace operational plans for specific departments, specific functions, and any additional emergency plans.

This Annex assumes that small-scale local fires will be managed by local first responders in the field Incident Command Post (ICP). This typically occurs without activating the OA EOC or this Annex. Wildfires that grow exponentially and exhaust all resources at the local level may activate the OA EOC to provide resources to contain or extinguish the fire.

## **1.3 Objectives**

- Mitigate adverse impacts of wildfire events through the description of collaboration and coordination throughout the OA.
- Outline OA coordination actions preceding a weather event capable of resulting in a wildfire event.
- Ensure the consideration of key infrastructure and vulnerable populations during wildfire events.
- Enhance situational awareness for all OA jurisdictions/partners during wildfire events

### 1.4 Situation and Assumptions

#### Situation

Yolo County has a total population of 221,165, of which 88% of the population live in the four incorporated cities (Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland, Winters), however most of the 1,014.8 square miles is unincorporated agricultural and/or rural land. This is significant because rural residents, businesses, and animals are more at-risk for evacuation due to wildfire and could lead to large losses in crops, forestry, livestock, and agricultural infrastructure. A wildfire hazard was ranked the second highest hazard present in Yolo County with a risk scored of 10.94, with a high degree of risk present. Air quality deterioration from fire pollution also places all areas in the county at-risk of secondary adverse health impacts.

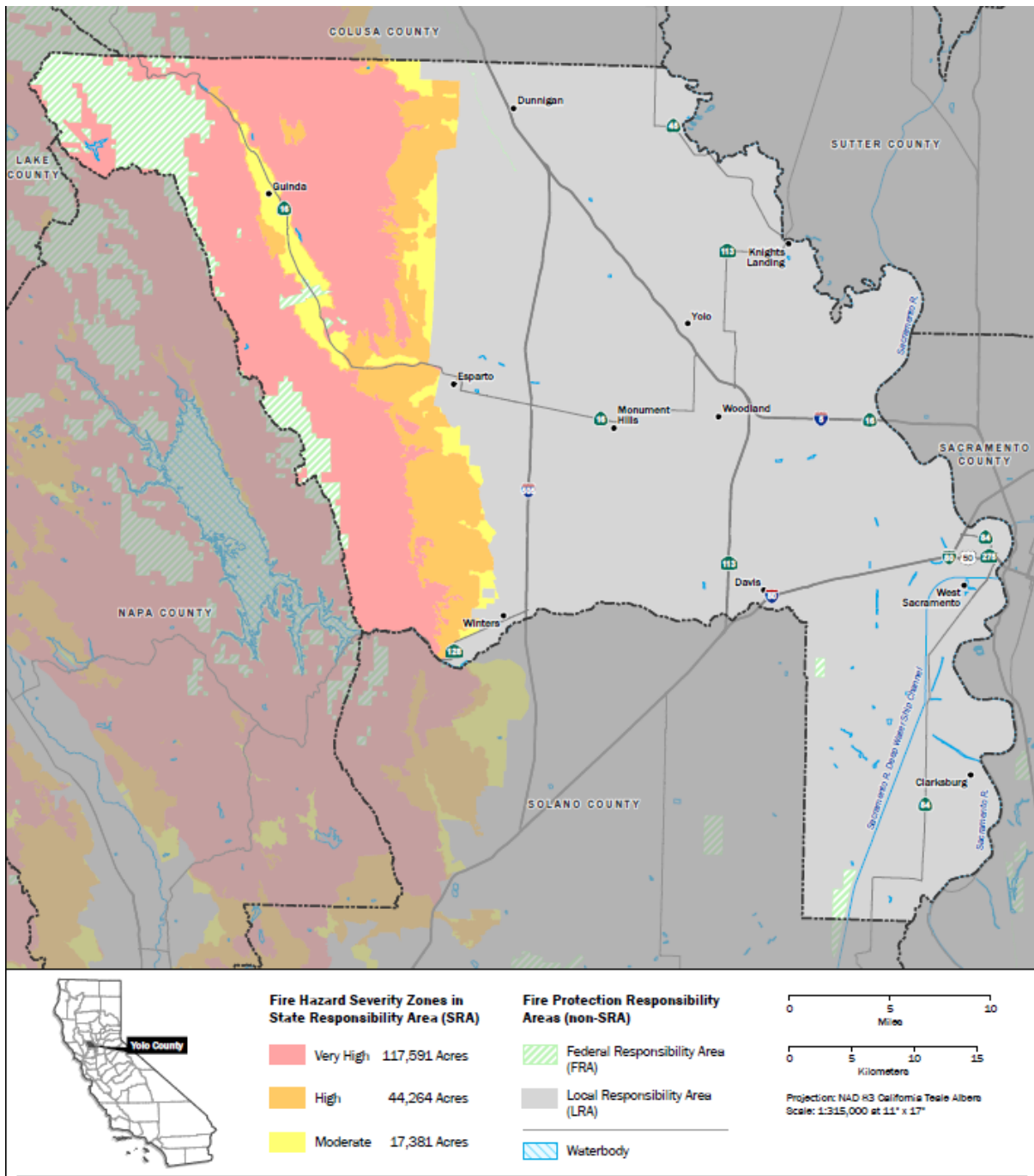
Wildfire danger varies throughout Yolo County. The County is characterized by relatively level valley floor landscapes to the south and east. This lack of topography and complex fuels leads to very little severe fire behavior. In the increasingly hilly landscapes rising to the north and west, the rugged topography creates a landscape where fires can spread rapidly upslope and access for suppression equipment is limited. The geographic extent of wildfires is **Significant** with between 35-50 percent of the operational area potentially affected. A wildfire of 25,000 acres could occur in Yolo County.

The greatest affect extreme heat has within the Yolo County Operational area is the population, as well as the County's agricultural industry. Heat can cause stress to agricultural crops and livestock in the County. Though crops in Yolo County are adaptable to heat, they can become vulnerable to prolonged periods of high temperatures. Extreme heat also dries out vegetation in the County, creating greater risks from wildfire. When combined with low humidity and high winds, extreme heat also can contribute to the start and spread of wildfires.

The County and its municipalities fight a large number of vegetation fires, particularly during the summer. These fires tend to occur along major highways and railroads, and usually do not damage structures. However, fires can be exacerbated by hot north winds during periods of extremely low humidity. In addition, if they are fed by dry grass and vegetation, they can easily grow out of control. Wildfire can damage structures and facilities, and the County must be prepared for protection from dangerous wildfires, especially where urban and non-urban landscapes meet.

To quantify the potential risk from wildfires, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) has developed a Fire Hazard Severity Scale, which uses three criteria to evaluate and designate potential fire hazards in wildland areas. The requirements are fuel loading (vegetation), fire weather (winds, temperatures, humidity levels, and fuel moisture contents) and topography (degree of slope). According to the Cal Fire wildfire severity map for Yolo County (see **Figure A**), the county's western portion, west of Esparto and Winters, is designated as a Very High Fire Severity Zone (VHFSZ).

**Figure A illustrates the Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Yolo County per CalFire**



**History of Wildfires in Yolo County**

Most wildfires in Yolo County are quickly contained due to rapid reporting and response, but if this first effort fails, a wildfire can grow exponentially quickly. Such fires can require extensive firebreaks and/or a weather change for containment. There have been several notable wildfires in Yolo County. Wildfires that left a great impact throughout the County are listed below:

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- 09/28-09/30/1999 - The Rumsey Incident was responsible for burning 3,015 acres. Fire suppression costs approached 1 million dollars. Six injuries and zero deaths were reported. The fire threatened structures and closed Highway 16 from Rumsey to Highway 20. Erratic winds and steep terrain prolonged the control process.
- 07/04-07/12/2014 – Monticello Fire: The Monticello Fire was started by fireworks on the southeast shore of Lake Berryessa and burned 6,488 acres before it was fully contained. Five firefighters suffered minor injuries, including heat exhaustion, while fighting the blaze. Erratic wind shifts led to extreme fire behavior during the first few days of the fire, prompting evacuation orders for 40 homes in Golden Bear Estates near Winters. No structures were lost in the fire.
- 07/22-08/05/2015 – Wragg Fire: The Wragg Fire was started by an idling car on State Route 128 near Lake Berryessa. The fire burned 8,051 acres and destroyed two buildings. Parts of Interstate 505 in Yolo County were closed during the fire. Mandatory evacuations were ordered for 136 homes, including Golden Bear Estates near Winters. No injuries were reported.
- 07/29-09/14/2015 – Rocky Fire: The Rocky Fire was started by a faulty gas-powered water heater inside an outbuilding being used for an illegal marijuana grow in Lake County. The fire burned 69,438 acres in Yolo, Lake, and Colusa Counties and destroyed 43 homes and 53 outbuildings. Several hundred people were evacuated in Lake County, but no injuries were reported. Yolo County was considering evacuating the Capay Valley if the fire crested the Blue Ridge Mountains, but it did not. The Rocky Fire eventually merged with the Jerusalem Fire.
- 08/09-08/25/2015 – Jerusalem Fire: The Jerusalem Fire was human caused and burned 25,118 acres in Lake County on the outskirts of Yolo County before it merged with the Rocky Fire. The fire destroyed six homes and 21 outbuildings. Evacuations were ordered in Lake County, but no injuries were reported.
- 08/02-08/11/2016 – Cold Fire: The Cold Fire was a human caused wildfire that burned 5,371 in Yolo County near Lake Berryessa. The fire destroyed two buildings and caused an estimated \$100,000 in damage. The Cold Fire burned primarily in the footprint of the Monticello Fire. Mandatory evacuations were ordered for Canyon Creek Campground and Golden Bear Estates near Winters.
- 07/06-07/11/2017 – Winters Fire: The Winters Fire was a human caused wildfire that burned roughly 2,300 acres in the Cold Fire footprint north of State Route 128. The fire did not damage any structures but one firefighter was injured and Golden Bear estates was evacuated for the fourth year in a row.
- 06/08 -06/17/2019 - On June 8, conditions were favorable for wildfire growth as relative humidity values fell into the teens and northerly winds gusted up to 25-45 mph. Prior to the start of this event, the local utility company decided to de-energize power lines per CA



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Public Utility Commissions (CPUC) Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) guidelines. Eventually, a fire did start at 1350PST in Yolo County, which became known as the Sand Fire. There were 2512 acres of land burned over a period of 8 days, along with 7 structures destroyed. The fire also led to road closures from Highway 16 to Highway 20 to the town Brooks in addition to the evacuation of residents living along County Road 41.

- 08/17-08/31/2020 - During mid-August, moisture from tropical storm Fausto moved along the coast of southern CA and made landfall over central and northern California. This system, combined with an oppressive high-pressure system that had predominately dry air, caused widespread dry thunderstorms to develop. Thousands of lightning strikes occurred overnight, which combined with the critical dry fuels, led to massive wildfire development. The August, the North, the LNU, and Santa Clara Unit (SCU) Complexes all started between August 15 and 17. The LNU Complex started on August 17 and will eventually become contained on October 2, 2020. This fire ends up burning a total of 363, 220 acres, destroying 1491 structures, including an NWS COOP site, and damaging 232 structures, the largest fire recorded in California history. Many evacuations occurred, including larger sized populations such as Fairfield, Vacaville, and Travis Air force Base. Yolo County was also affected by the fires and had evacuations and road closures. Multiple road closures happened as well, including Interstate 80 for a brief period. Per the last CalFire incident update, 6 injuries occurred, 4 were first responder and 2 were civilian. The fires burned caused significant damage over the area. The SCU Complex finally becomes fully contained on October 1, 2020

Though larger wildfires occur in the mountainous terrain of Yolo County, grass fires in the valley are more common and can cause significant damages to structures and agricultural lands:

- November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013, a 200-acre grass fire burned near Esparto causing concern for local residents but no structures were destroyed.
- August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014, a 369-acre grass fire burned near Winters after a car crashed into a field. No structures were threatened and no evacuations were ordered.
- June 20, 2016, a grass fire occurred in Dunnigan, destroyed a home and burned property near a vineyard. A grass fire in Woodland on the same day burned several hay bales.
- June 28, 2022, a 500-acre fire near Davis, impacting the air quality of nearby areas within Yolo and Solano County.
- The most destructive wildfire in Yolo County occurred in October 2006 when 11,000 acres of rangeland burned, destroying six vehicles, and damaging three to four houses plus 15 barns and outbuildings. More than 300 animals, mainly sheep, had to be put down as a result of injuries suffered when the fire roared across their pasture. The total animal death toll is estimated to top 500. No human lives were lost.

### Assumptions

Certain assumptions can be made for the County wildfire risk and hazards. These assumptions form the foundation for this Annex and the County EOP associated with conducting emergency management operations in preparation for, response to, and transition to recovery from major wildfire emergencies:

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- The County's risk of wildfire activity is likely to increase in frequency and intensity over time due to climate change.
- The National Weather Service issues Red Flag Warnings, Fire Weather Watches, and Extreme Fire Behavior to alert fire departments of the possible onset of weather conditions that could lead to rapid or dramatic increases in wildfire activity (see NWS Fire Weather Guidance section).
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may pose serious threats to public health, life safety, property, the environment, and the local economy.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may result in significant transportation interruptions that may complicate other response operations.
- In wildfire emergencies or disasters, the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) will be utilized by responding agencies.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may require a multi-jurisdictional response.
- Yolo County is responsible for coordination of emergency actions in the unincorporated county area and will commit resources as available to save lives, property, and the environment.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may overburden local resources and necessitate utilizing pre-identified additional resources through established mutual-aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions or requesting assistance from the State, as appropriate.
- County air quality may be impacted by distant wildfires.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may generate widespread interest from the public and media and the Joint Information System will be used to communicate with the public.
- Community members with access and functional needs (AFN) will require advanced notice and planning for evacuation and sheltering.
- All County departments, agencies, and cities should exercise their best efforts to develop and maintain emergency plans.
- Mitigation efforts such as vegetation management and prescribed burn plans will continue to lessen the risk of wildland fire in the County.
- Individuals who are directly threatened by a wildfire may ignore, not hear, or not understand warnings issued by the government.
- Some people will refuse to comply with evacuation orders, regardless of the threat.
- Large numbers of people may be left temporarily or permanently homeless and may require prolonged temporary housing. Long-term recovery initiatives must be established at the onset of response.
- Full community evacuations creating need for mass care and sheltering
- Medical surge to hospitals and urgent cares for smoke inhalation
- Public messaging and alerts advising shelter in place or evacuation orders
- Evacuation of hospitals and other healthcare facilities

### Access and Functional Need Individuals

Yolo County strives to incorporate the Whole Community perspective in its emergency planning. By planning with the Whole Community. Yolo County's planning strategy includes the complexities of the diversity in Yolo County.

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Yolo County defines disabilities and those with access or functional needs as:

*Populations whose members may have additional needs before, during, and after an incident in functional areas, including but not limited to maintaining independence and the ability to perform the activities of daily living, communication, transportation, supervision, and medical care. Individuals needing additional response assistance may include those with disabilities; who live in institutionalized settings; who are elderly; who are children; who are from diverse cultures; who have limited English proficiency or are non-English speaking; or who are transportation disadvantaged.*

Furthermore, the County and Operational Area are committed to maximizing compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and providing the best service to Yolo County residents and visitors. As such, the County adheres to the guidelines outlined below:

- County services and facilities are equally accessible and available to all persons.
- All the benefits the County offers are accessible to persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.
- The County and Operational Area partners will accommodate people with disabilities and those with access or functional needs in the most integrated setting possible.
- During all phases of disaster response, the County and its agencies will make reasonable modifications to policies, practices, and procedures, if necessary, to ensure programmatic and architectural access to all.
- The County and Operational Area partners will ensure that its shelters are accessible, both physically and programmatically, to afford people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs the opportunity to remain with family and friends in the most integrated setting possible.

During a mass wildfire event, the evacuation of people with disabilities and access and functional needs pose additional requirements with respect to alert and notification, information dissemination, evacuation, emergency transportation, and sheltering requirements.

Many people with disabilities are completely self-sufficient and may be prepared to evacuate an area caused by a wildfire. Other potentially at-risk individuals include those with cognitive or emotional disabilities that may impair their ability to make decisions during an emergency and should be transported with their caregivers or other mental health professionals when possible.

It is critical that modes of available transportation are identified that can accommodate people with disabilities and other access and functional needs during an evacuation. Transportation that can accommodate persons who use wheelchairs, power chairs, service animals, or other mobility equipment aids needs to be made available. Some potential options can be the use of lift-equipped school buses or vans.

Yolo County HHSA maintains a database of registered persons with access and functional needs, as well as a list of facilities where persons with access and functional needs are housed. If needed, law enforcement will work closely with Yolo County HHSA and the local EOC on the evacuation of persons with access and functional needs during a mass wildfire event.

## SECTION 2.0: CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### 2.1 General

This contingency plan specifically addresses the entire spectrum for support operations and functions related to wildfire conditions of large-scale disaster impact. A Red Flag warning period will precede sometimes, providing sufficient time to warn the public and implement readiness measures designed to reduce loss of life, and property damage. In some case, a wildfire situation may occur with little or no advance warning, thus requiring immediate deployment, coordination and mobilization of resources. All departments and agencies of the County must be prepared to promptly and effectively respond to wildfire conditions, taking all appropriate actions, including request and providing mutual aid. Fire protection and suppression activities will be managed by the Fire Event Incident Commander (IC). If a wildfire grows to the point where local personnel and equipment are insufficient to contain and/or control it, the responding IC may reach out to the Operational Area for assistance. The Operational Area in turn may request support from California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Region IV Mutual Aid Coordinator if the request for additional resources cannot be met within the Operational Area. The Region IV Mutual Aid Coordinator manages the provision of mutual aid within the region, and elevates requests to the State Operation Center (SOC) Fire and Rescue Branch Chief, who is responsible for the overall state management of fire and rescue mutual aid resources.

### 2.2 National Weather Service (NWS) Wildfire Guidance

**Red Flag Warning:** NWS issues a Red Flag Warning to alert critical fire weather patterns that contribute to extreme fire danger or fire behavior expected to occur within 24 hours. These warnings often stem from a combination of strong winds, high temperatures, and low humidity. A Red Flag Warning is the highest alert. During these times, the public should use extreme caution, because a simple spark can cause a major wildfire. Figure 1, below, shows the criteria considered by NWS prior to issuing a Red Flag Warning. Note that Red Flag Warning criteria involves multiple factors including relative humidity, sustained winds, moisture values as explained in the narrative in the matrix shown in Figure 1, below.

Figure 1: Wind/Relative Humidity Decision Matrix for Northern California West of the Sierra Crest

The matrix below assumes 10-hour fuel moisture of less than 6%, annual grasses are cured, and no wetting rain greater than 0.10 inch has fallen in the previous 24 hours.

Relative Humidity	Sustained 20 foot Wind Speed (Note: the wind event should be expected to last at least 8 hours)			
	Sustained Wind 6-11 mph	Sustained Wind 12-20 mph	Sustained Wind 21-29 mph	Sustained Wind 30+ mph
<u>Day MIN 29-42%</u> <u>Ngt MAX 61-80%</u>				RED FLAG WARNING
<u>Day MIN 19-28%</u> <u>Ngt MAX 46-60%</u>			RED FLAG WARNING	RED FLAG WARNING
<u>Day MIN 9-18%</u> <u>Ngt MAX 30-45%</u>		RED FLAG WARNING	RED FLAG WARNING	RED FLAG WARNING
<u>Day MIN &lt; 9%</u> <u>Ngt MAX &lt; 30%</u>	RED FLAG WARNING	RED FLAG WARNING	RED FLAG WARNING	RED FLAG WARNING

Source: Geographic Area Coordination Center, National Interagency Fire Center, Watches and Warnings for California, [https://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/myfiles/Watches\\_and\\_Warnings\\_for\\_California.htm](https://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/myfiles/Watches_and_Warnings_for_California.htm).

When “Red Flag Warning” appears in the matrix in Figure 1, the forecaster should consider issuing a warning.

**Fire Weather Watch:** The NWS issues a Fire Weather Watch to that coming weather conditions may result in extensive wildfire occurrence or extreme fire behavior. A watch means critical fire weather conditions are possible within the next 12 to 72 hours. A Fire Weather Watch is one level below a red flag warning, but fire danger is still high.

**Extreme Fire Behavior:** The NWS issues an Extreme Fire Behavior alert when a wildfire is likely to rage of out of control. The behavior of such fires is often more difficult to predict because they behave erratically, sometimes dangerously. One or more of the following criteria must be met for the NWS to issue this alert:

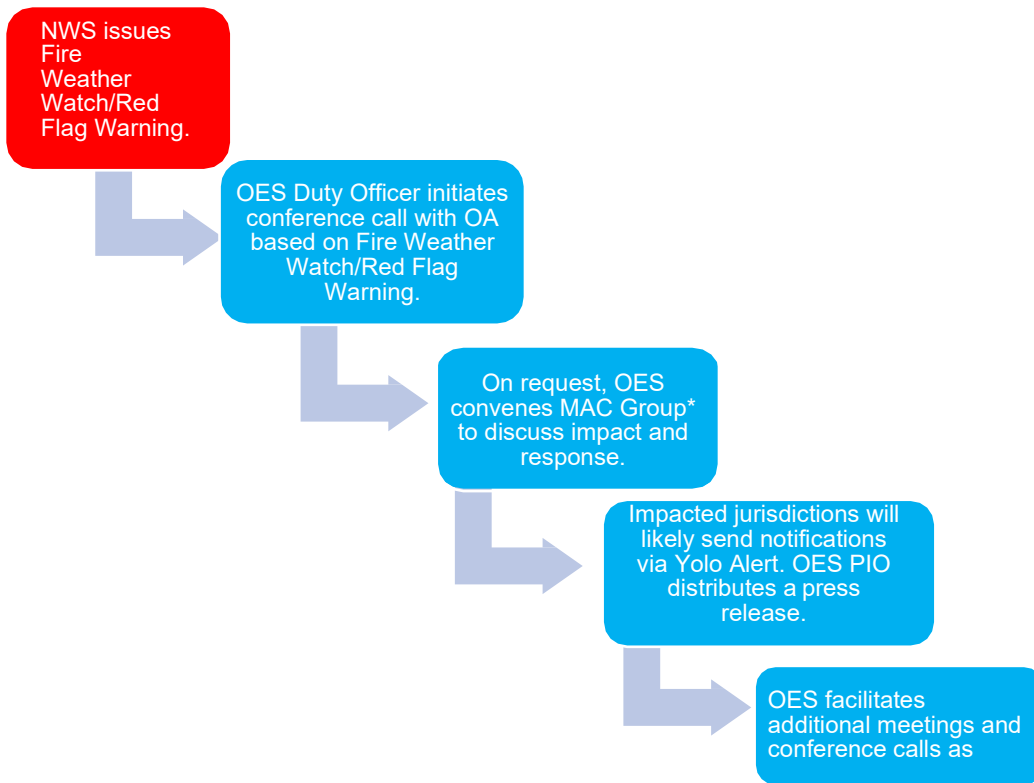
- Moving fast: High rate of spread.
- Prolific crowning or spotting.
- Presence of fire whirls.
- Strong convection column.

### 2.3 Annex Activation

Once NWS determines that an upcoming Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning could pose a substantial threat of wildfire, the OES duty officer in consultation with OES leadership may choose

to begin implementing the actions detailed in the activity flow chart presented below. Yolo County OES has identified preparedness and response activities to reduce such risks. Figure 2 illustrates the annex activity flow.

**Figure 2: Annex Activation Flow Chart**



\*A Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Group acts as an executive or policy-level body during incidents, supporting resource prioritization and allocation, and enabling decision-making among elected and appointed officials and those responsible for managing the incident.

Though it is the intent of this Annex to standardize the approach of coordination across the OA, the actions described in the Pre-Red Flag Coordination Timeline below should be treated as guidance rather than as requirements. Event timelines and specific details are fluid and subject to changing circumstances. Each emergency event is unique. Therefore, emergency officials must remain flexible and tailor activities suggested in this Annex depending on the circumstances presented by the actual incident

**2.4 National Pre-Red Flag Coordination Timeline**

<b>Up to 48 Hours (2 days) Fire Weather Watch - Prior to Red Flag Event</b> <small>(the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)</small>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Department, Agency, or Element</b>
National Weather Service (NWS) indicates potential of upcoming Red Flag warning by issuing a Fire Weather Advisory (i.e., Hazardous Weather Outlook).	NWS
<p>If determined that Fire Weather Watch poses a significant threat of impact, the OES Duty Officer (OES DO) schedules a conference call with the Operational Area (OA) jurisdictions/partners. Conference call situational awareness requests will include the following information from the local jurisdictions/partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current and planned preparedness/response actions (e.g. EOC, Department Operations Center (DOC) activations, resource staging, Fire Weather Watch preparedness activities).</li> <li>• Identify possible resource needs, limitations, and high-risk areas.</li> </ul> <p>The conference call should include non-governmental partners as well, such as PG&amp;E and other stakeholder agencies. OES will also determine a pre-fire situation reporting schedule, review relevant annexes and future conference call schedule.</p>	OES DO/Local Jurisdictions/Local Partners
Based on NWS information and threshold considerations, and in collaboration with the local fire departments, OES determines whether or not the Fire Weather Watch notification poses a significant threat of impact.	OES
OES shares the NWS forecast partnering agencies and any other county departments/agencies. This provides partner agencies lead-time in planning for emergency shelter activation and other sheltering needs.	OES/ Partner Agencies
Consider activating a Joint Information Center (JIC), virtual or physical, for coordinated public messaging.	OES/ PIO
Begin participation in State and NWS conference calls, as applicable.	OES DO
<b>36 - 24 Hours Fire Weather Watch - Prior to Red Flag Warning</b> <small>(the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)</small>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Department, Agency, or Element</b>
OES continues to monitor NWS products and information.	OES /NWS

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<p>OES holds a conference call with the OA jurisdictions/partners and request the following information from local jurisdictions/partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current and planned preparedness/response actions (e.g. EOC/DOC activations, resource staging, Red Flag Warning preparedness activities).</li> <li>• Identify possible resource needs, limitations, and high-risk areas.</li> </ul> <p>Update Fire Weather Watch situation reporting schedule, review relevant annexes, and share future conference call schedule</p>	OES /Local Jurisdictions/Local Partners
<p>Yolo County Departments will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Coordinate all county healthcare facilities to ensure they have adequate fuel, water, health supplies, and an adequate staffing plan.</li> <li>•Disseminate Fire Weather Watch related health information to the public, including possibility of increased “poor “Air Quality.</li> <li>•Issue any necessary health precautions.</li> <li>•Coordinate with HHSA for outreach support to vulnerable populations.</li> </ul>	GSD/HHSA/YSAQMD
<p>HHSA, and Red Cross will coordinate shelter and shelter preparation as needed.</p>	HHSA / American Red Cross
<p>OES will consider development of a Situation Status Report (SitRep).</p>	OES
<p>If a JIC is not currently activated, consider activating a JIC (virtual or physical) and continue public messaging.</p>	OES/ PIO

<b>24 to 0 Hours Prior to Red Flag Warning</b> (the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)	
Activity	Department, Agency, or Element
As needed, review NWS Area Forecast Discussion report and consider requesting a Forecast specific to an area within Yolo County.	OES /NWS
Consider activation of the Operational Area (OA) Emergency Operations Center (EOC) after evaluation of threshold criteria and threat.	OES /Local Jurisdictions/Local Partners
EOCs and Department Operations Centers (DOC) activate and finalize Red Flag preparations, as necessary.	Applicable Departments
Local jurisdictions/partners pre-stage resources in designated staging areas and monitor potential Red Flag vulnerability areas.	OES/HHSA/Red Cross

<b>Red Flag Warning</b> (the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)	
Activity	Department, Agency, or Element
NWS to continue with updated briefings on the Red Flag Warning system via conference call.	NWS
Departments are monitoring Red Flag Warning impact on their employees, properties, facilities, and continuity of operations.	All
Develop OA SitRep or Incident Action Plan, as necessary.	OES



### 2.5 Red Flag Warning and Evacuation Considerations

The Incident Commander or Unified Command will delineate all roles and responsibilities for evacuation efforts. The EOC may assist Incident Command or Unified Command with resource requests, decision-making, and coordination of activities, including public notifications as necessary.

Wildfire events or other disasters may result in the need to evacuate people as evacuations are coordinated at the local field level. The following planning assumptions are provided as a reference for consideration in plan development.

- A Red Flag Warning may trigger designation of evacuation routes due to:
  - Road construction: Early identification and resolution of current projects that could hamper first responder's access and civilian egress.
  - Estimated traffic loads: Daily traffic on adjacent highways and roads
  - Typical routes of congestion: Early evacuation of sensitive areas may alleviate this concern.
- Assess residential addresses and care facilities where AFN concerns may impact evacuation efforts.
- The AFN community will benefit from early drafting of an evacuation plan specific to the site or facility.
- Early collaboration and information-sharing by first responders:
  - Digital and analog map sharing with parcel and evacuation route maps.
  - Pre-determined partitioned zones for evacuations with trigger points.
  - Pre-determined safety zones, escape routes, and evacuation routes.
  - Pre-written Fire warning bulletins for Law and Fire PIOs.
  - Pre-written Fire Evacuation Orders for Law and Fire PIOs.
- Some residents may evacuate before being directed to do so. Public outreach programs have educated the community to evacuate prior to evacuation orders. In many cases, today's rapid wildfire progression leaves little time to both prepare and leave during an evacuation order. Community members who choose to stay behind should be identified by a system chosen by each local jurisdiction.
- Some residents may refuse to evacuate because of prior experiences. Magnifying factors include lack of transportation, expected traffic, AFN considerations, or refusing to leave private property unprotected or unsecured.
- Studies indicate that some residents will have a hard time deciding to evacuate based on consideration for their pets. Some residents may refuse to evacuate unless arrangements are made to care for their animals.
- Residents may require mass care emergency sheltering during an evacuation. See the Yolo County Operational Area Mass Care and Shelter Plan for additional details.
- OES will work with county partners to ensure shelters will be able to accommodate the evacuated population.

### 2.6 Resource Provision

In the interest of providing the necessary emergency services, normal services may need to be suspended. Plans should be in place for the coordination of resources between departments/agencies throughout the Operational Area (OA).

- Stockpile necessary supplies.
- Coordinate with responding departments/agencies and experts to distribute emergency resources.
- Determine normal services that may be suspended.
- Ensure continuity of important services, such as health care.
- Foster partnerships.
- Prepare staff movement plans.

The bulk of additional firefighting resources will be provided by CAL FIRE. In the event of a major wildfire, career and volunteer firefighters may come from around the state or country to assist. Because wildfires can last a long time, it may be necessary to require staff to work extra time, or extra staff or volunteers may need to be recruited through the mutual aid agreement or private volunteer agencies.

### 2.7 Air Quality Considerations

Wildfires pose immediate danger to lives and property, but poor air quality due to wildfire smoke and ash may lead to significant public health consequences that can persist for extended periods. Understanding the adverse health impacts of wildfire smoke is relevant to a broad group of stakeholders, including local and state public health officials, officials responsible for air quality monitoring and management, environmental scientists, and healthcare providers.

Wildfire smoke is a mixture of air pollutants of which particulate matter is the principal public health threat. Extensive scientific evidence has demonstrated health effects in response to short-term particulate matter exposure ranging from eye and respiratory tract irritation to more serious effects, including reduced lung function, pulmonary inflammation, bronchitis, exacerbation of asthma and other lung diseases, exacerbation of cardiovascular diseases, such as heart failure, and even premature death.

With the recent increase in fire activity a throughout the area, there has been an uptake in published research on a broad range of health effects of wildfires smoke, including visits to hospital emergency departments, hospitalizations, medication prescribing, and emergency ambulance dispatches. Although most healthy adults and children will recover quickly from wildfire smoke exposure, there are certain groups that are more susceptible to the effects of wildfire smoke. These groups include children, people over 65, pregnant women, people with pre-existing pulmonary or cardiovascular conditions, people of lower socioeconomic status, and outdoor workers. These sensitive sub-populations represent a significant percentage of the total population. As wildfire smoke research advances, it is likely that other groups will be added to the list of impacted subpopulations.

Further complicating this subject is the variation of health impacts per people. Some people may experience immediate health impacts while others may experience health impacts that manifest days or weeks later, depending on the underlying sensitivity.

Wildfire smoke can impact large geographic areas that span multiple health jurisdictions and air districts. Involved governmental agencies include local health departments, local and regional air

## Wildfire Hazard Annex

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districts, local environmental health departments, school districts, and multiple state and federal agencies. The ability of responsible agencies to effectively coordinate public messaging about current and forecasted air quality, coupled with consistent protective health recommendations, benefits the public who may otherwise remain uninformed or confused by conflicting messages.

### Air Quality Index (AQI)

A useful tool developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to communicate information about air quality to the public is the Air Quality Index (AQI). The U.S. EPA's AirNow website, <https://www.airnow.gov>, displays air quality data by zip code using the AQI to indicate air quality values. The AQI uses a 6-level color-coded scale to communicate the health impacts of pollution at different concentration ranges (Green, Yellow, Orange, Red, Purple and Maroon). Each color-coded level has an associated descriptive term, progressing from "Good" to "Hazardous." The AQI is shown in Figure 3, below.

**Figure 3: Air Quality Index**

Air Quality Index (AQI) Values	Levels of Health Concern	Colors
<i>When the AQI is in this range:</i>	<i>..air quality conditions are:</i>	<i>...as symbolized by this color:</i>
0 to 50	Good	Green
51 to 100	Moderate	Yellow
101 to 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Orange
151 to 200	Unhealthy	Red
201 to 300	Very Unhealthy	Purple
301 to 500	Hazardous	Maroon

## Wildland Fire Annex

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Wildfires lead to smoke production and many California communities have experienced sustained, elevated AQI values during recent wildfires. Public Health, in partnership with other appropriate County agencies will take the lead in developing and sending appropriate public messaging regarding air quality health concerns.

### Spare the Air

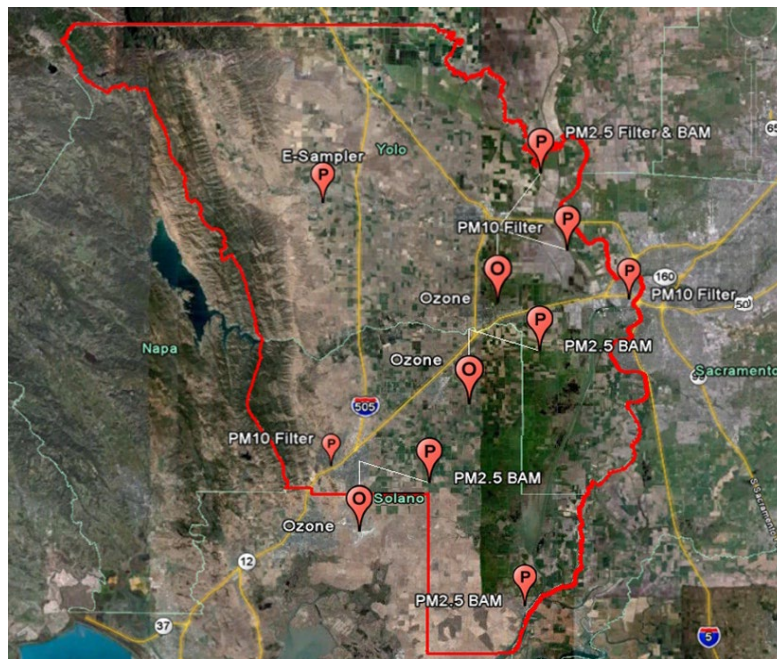
Spare the Air is a useful tool that alerts registered individuals of when the air quality in their area is forecasted to be unhealthy, and provides them with information on ways to reduce air pollution. These alerts are issued when the AQI for ground-level ozone is forecasted to be 126 or above. Residents in the region are encouraged to continue to telework, take transit, drive a hybrid or electric vehicle, or consider active transportation options such as walking, biking, or riding a scooter when possible, to help continue to improve air quality in the region.

### Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's (YSAQMD) mission is to protect human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution. They seek to achieve that goal in all of their work, from rulemaking to permitting, from enforcement to public education, from planning to monitoring. They consider themselves as an essential part of the community, and as such, working closely with local businesses to find sensible solutions to their needs while enforcing their own rules about emissions and control technology. Yolo-Solano has a rich agricultural heritage, and works with farmers every day to ensure their work doesn't impair the air quality.

Their monitoring network provides real-time data that allows the District to forecast air quality and issues advisories to the public as needed. The monitoring network also allows the District to show progress toward air quality standards. Currently, there are six permanent monitoring sites within Yolo County. Figure 4 illustrates the locations of the monitors all throughout Yolo County.

Figure 4 illustrates the six permanent monitoring sites within Yolo County, CA



### 2.8 Mutual Aid Agreements

California's emergency assistance is based on a statewide mutual aid system designed to ensure that additional resources are provided to the State's political subdivisions whenever their own resources are overwhelmed or inadequate. The California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA) guides the system.

California is divided into six mutual aid regions. Yolo County is located in Mutual Aid Region IV. Formal mutual aid requests will follow specified procedures and are processed through pre-identified mutual aid coordinators.

**Field Level Requests:** Requests for MMAA resources originate from the Field Level and are managed by the Incident Commander (IC). If the IC is unable to obtain the resource through existing local channels, the request is elevated to the next successive government level until obtained or cancelled.

**Local Government Request:** jurisdictions are responsible for the protection of life and property within the municipal geographic boundaries. When locally committed resources are exhausted and mutual aid is needed, the local official will request assistance from the OA Mutual Aid Coordinator

**Operational Area Requests:** The OA Mutual Aid Coordinator assesses the availability of resources within the OA and fulfills the resources request based upon that assessment. In the event resources are unavailable at the OA level, the request is forwarded to the responsible Region Mutual Aid Coordinator to be filled.

**Region Level Requests:** The State is geographically divided into six Mutual Aid Regions. The Region Mutual Aid Coordinator is granted the authority to coordinate mutual aid responses within the Region. In the event resources are unavailable at the Region Level, the request is forwarded to the State Mutual Aid Coordinator to be filled.

**State Level Requests:** On behalf of the Governor, the Director of Cal OES has the responsibility for coordination of State mutual aid resources in support of local jurisdictions during times of emergency. The Director will analyze and coordinate the request by forwarding the request to an unaffected REOC or tasking an appropriate state agency to fill the need.

**Federal Level Requests:** In the event that all state resources have been exhausted, the Governor may request a Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster from FEMA, which will be reviewed by FEMA and a course of action recommended to the President.

## SECTION 3.0: PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT

### 3.1 Background

Communications channels include the County's 24/7 communications technology solutions that can be broadcast to broad or targeted populations. Private broadcast print and online news media in multiple languages will be integral to broad inclusive communications as well as social media sites operated by the County including Nextdoor, Facebook, and Twitter.

Public information and engagement programs will comply with Titles II & III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which require state and local governments, businesses, and non-profit organizations to communicate effectively with people who have disabilities or access and functional needs. The County's goal is to ensure that communication is equally effective for all stakeholders. To help meet that goal, the County Office of Emergency Services (OES) has developed the Yolo Operational Area Communications Executive Summary Annex. For complete discussion of public information in a disaster, see the Communications Annex.

In March 2019, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) recently released State of California Alert & Warning Guidelines. The Guidelines establish a statewide protocol to enable and encourage consistent application of alert and warning best practices and procedures. The Guidelines provide that the safety of local communities requires designated alerting authorities to ensure they have multiple operators, adequate testing and training, and functional equipment and software.

Critical components of an effective and comprehensive alert and warning program include:

- Roles and responsibilities
- When and how to issue a public alert or warning
- Methods and technologies
- Messaging
- Alerting coordination
- Training requirements
- System testing and exercise requirements

### 3.2 Background Public Alert versus Public Warning

A **public alert** is a communication intended to attract public attention to an unusual situation and to motivate individual awareness. The measure of an effective alert message is the extent to which the intended audience becomes attentive and searches for additional information.

A **public warning** is a communication intended to persuade members of the public to take one or more protective actions to reduce losses or harm. The measure of an effective public warning message is the extent to which the intended audience receives the message and takes the protective action or heeds the guidance.



### 3.3 Guidelines for Issuing Public Alerts and Warnings

Events or incidents can evolve in extreme ways. Alerts and warning need to be an integral component of a jurisdiction's response to those events. Issuing public alerts and warnings requires the exercise of reasonable and well-informed judgment. There is no all-encompassing formula for making warning decisions. There are, however, some evidence-based principles and best practices that can help guide the decision-maker:

1. Incomplete or imperfect information is not a valid reason to delay or to avoid issuing a warning. Time is of the essence, as recipients of warnings will need time to consider, plan, and act after they receive a warning message.
2. The Integrated Public Alert & Warning Systems (IPAWS) should be a primary mechanism for issuing alert and warnings to ensure the greatest number of recipients within the impacted area are alerted when life safety concerns are present.
3. Messages should come from an authoritative source and should clearly identify the originating agency.
4. Warning messages can and should be updated and refined as additional information becomes available. Additionally, when the threat or warning messages are no longer applicable, a message stating that the message no longer applies should be sent.
5. Warning messages sent in error should be updated, clarified, or retracted within ten minutes of the message being confirmed as erroneous.

### 3.4 Background Guidelines for How to Issue Alerts and Warnings

To the extent possible, warning messages should be distributed to all members of the community who are at risk, including commuters, travelers or transient populations, people with disabilities or access and functional needs, non-English speakers, people in remote or isolated areas, older adults, and people with limited technology. People rarely act on a single warning message alone. To be effective, warnings should be delivered in various formats across multiple media platforms. This approach increases the reliability of warning delivery and provides a sense of corroboration that will encourage recipients to take protective actions.

#### Planning

Getting the right messages to the right people at the right time during and after an emergency is possible with a resilient emergency communications program. The EOC Director and the lead PIO will coordinate together to disseminate alert and warning messages through multiple means of communication channels during wildfire events. In performing this role, the EOC, OES, and supporting agencies will utilize these principles:

- Prioritization of community members with special emphasis of those in high risk areas and individuals who have access or functional needs, including but not limited to:
  - Physical, developmental, or intellectual disabilities
  - Chronic conditions or injuries
  - Limited English proficiency
  - Older adults

- Children
- Low income, homeless, or transportation disadvantaged (e.g., dependent on public transit)
- Pregnant individuals
- Contact information in digital form (e.g., in Excel on a flash drive) for County departments, media outlets, and community partners in private and public sector organizations that serve as conduits to stakeholder groups, including:
  - County departments
  - Regional and local media
  - Community-based organizations
  - Faith-based organizations
  - Labor and business organizations.
- Clear definition of roles and responsibilities for managing and executing emergency communications before, during, and after an incident, including:
  - Organizational chart that designates clear authority for (1) approving messages and content, (2) releasing information to the media and public, and (3) serving as a spokesperson to the media.
  - Roles and responsibilities as referenced in the Emergency Communications Annex.
- Clear, well-organized, written protocols for message development and dissemination to ensure timely, accurate, and complete information that is relevant and useful to stakeholders, including:
  - Pre-written, hazard-specific press release templates that can be particularized with incident-specific information when needed.
  - Hazard specific message templates for multilingual and multicultural stakeholder segments that are tailored for specific communications channels.
  - A flash drive that contains press releases and message templates.
- Development of a detailed communications protocol specific to the incident. For example, OES's Duty Officer issues a wildfire alert and immediately triggers the following outreach and communications actions:
  - Emergency notification through the Integrated Public Alert & Warning (IPAWS) and Yolo County Alerts (YoloAlert) to provide alerts, information and resources.
  - Emergency notification through news releases, press conferences, and television or radio public announcements.
  - Content posted to digital channels including websites, landing pages, social media, 2-1-1, email, and text messages
  - Distribution of printed materials such as fliers, brochures, and pamphlets.
  - Sirens and loudspeakers.

### 3.5 Social Media Engagement

The use of social media for public alert warning begins with issuance of a Red Flag Event by the National Weather Service (NWS). This may be followed by a press release from Yolo County's PIO or OES. The process for posting a press release will be to update the information on Yolo County's websites, reach out to local media, and follow up with information across all county-owned social



media and digital channels. For further discussion of public information in a disaster, see the Emergency Communications Annex.

### 3.6 Yolo Alert Engagement

#### Protocols

OES will rely on intelligence received from the NWS related to the wildfire to inform utilization of the Yolo Alert mass notification tool when notifying the public is necessary.

#### Reaching Vulnerable Populations through Yolo Alert

Enrollment in Yolo Alert is essential for all vulnerable populations. Those who are enrolled in the Yolo Alert system will receive text messages linking them to critical information and services. Vulnerable populations can access the alert and notification system by registering for Yolo Alert on the OEs website or through other County and local government websites. The County continues to explore avenues to make Yolo Alert more inclusive and accessible to vulnerable populations.

Emergency messaging should follow a clear and concise format. Messaging across all agencies from an event should include similar information to prevent confusion. However, it is expected that templates for email and text will vary based on limits to characters. For further discussion of methods for ensuring clear public information with a unified message across County offices and local jurisdictions in a disaster, see the Emergency Communications Annex.

### 3.7 Evacuations Language Considerations

Evacuation messages are particularly demanding on their originators, as they must be coordinated with agencies responsible for transport, traffic control, and evacuee reception and sheltering. Confusing and/or uncoordinated evacuation orders can have unintended adverse consequences. Evacuation messages must come from the jurisdiction's designated authority, often the local law enforcement authority and should address issues such as:

- Direction and destination of travel (include a map image if possible);
- Routes to be used and routes to be avoided
- Means of travel (by auto, by bus, on foot, etc.)
- Accessible transportation and sheltering resources
- Things to take along (papers, medications, pets, etc.)
- Expected duration of relocation (a few hours, a day, etc.)
- Phone or social media links for additional information.

In addition, the State's Warning Guidelines provide that, when possible, warnings should be targeted to the area known to be at risk, while coordinating with any other affected jurisdictions as soon as possible. Having relationships in place to ensure continuity of operations is imperative. However, local jurisdictions should issue additional warning messages, or should request assistance from an alerting authority, if needed, to communicate local variations on the recommended protective action, to expand the target area for the message, or to utilize local warning dissemination capabilities that will enhance delivery of the warning to people at risk. For additional information regarding evacuation procedure, please refer to the *Evacuation Annex*.

Because a wildfire is dynamic in nature, alert and warning and subsequent evacuation is best led by Incident Commanders or Unified Command at the wildfire incident and is best executed by Public Safety Answering Points which is Yolo 911 Emergency Dispatch. Even with good preplanning, incident commanders or unified command will be the best resource for appropriate evacuation routes as the fire progresses. The incident commander or unified command should understand that early and rapid alert and warning is needed to properly evacuate community members from their homes. Special consideration should be given to the AFN community, who may need more time after notification to safely evacuate.

### Alternative Use of Sirens and Loudspeakers

Sirens and loudspeakers have been effective for alerting people both indoors and outdoors for widespread notifications. However, residents or visitors may not understand the purpose of a siren or may interpret it differently. If a community plans to rely on sirens or loudspeakers as a broad-spectrum approach for notification in a select area, the community must perform public education before siren or loudspeaker use. Some avenues for educating the public include:

- Monthly or quarterly tests.
- Radio
- Yolo Alert
- Social Media.
- 2-1-1

### 3.8 Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)/ Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

The PG&E PSPS Plan's aim is to reduce accidental fires set by downed or compromised powerlines during elevated wildfire weather conditions by effectively cutting off the power to areas servicing structures in the wildland interface. AFN populations and those who rely on electric power to continue daily home or work operations may find themselves without power for two to seven days after a Red Flag Warning event or in other cases when PG&E determines there is a substantial risk to the community. An important consideration will be for agencies to reach out to populations that may be affected prior to a PSPS event. AFN populations need additional time to react to these events. Leveraging tools, such as PG&E's Medical Baseline and County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) In-Home Supportive Services Disaster Prep Reports, may be beneficial in establishing warning practices. For further discussion of the use of these tools in a PSPS event, see the *Yolo County PSPS Annex*.

As outlined in the PSPS Annex, pertinent stakeholders must be included in any conference calls discussing weather patterns that may lead to a PSPS event, including a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning. PG&E should be included in these calls. Other considerations include the following:

- Water departments or companies need advanced warning to ensure that reservoirs are filled prior to a shut off event.
- PSAPs need to be advised well in advance of any PG&E decisions to shut off power so they can ensure that back-up power to off-site repeaters and other communications equipment will function throughout the designated period.

- Fire stations, EMS, law enforcement, and other public service agencies need to be advised in advance to properly prepare to maintain public safety

In the event of a PSPS, OES may need to alter protocols for notifying and supporting the community due to lack of power, power outage frequency, and duration of the outage. As a result, in the event of spontaneous evacuations, evacuees may need to be directed to shelters, cooling centers, community centers, or any designated public gathering locations.

Once PG&E notifies the County of conclusion of the PSPS, the EOC or Duty Officer should be aware that it may take 24 to 48 hours or longer for PG&E to inspect and re-energize their lines. Length of time to re-energization will depend on how large of an area is impacted, and how much damage has occurred to PG&E’s electrical infrastructure. Emergency management and local government personnel should be prepared to support the community for extended durations of time. For further discussion of PSPS events, see the *Yolo County PSPS Annex*.

## **SECTION 4.0: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

This section provides basic guidance on the roles and responsibilities of various county departments, agencies, ESFs, and other partners within the OA prior to and during Red Flag Warning or wildfire events.

### **4.1 ESF Roles**

The following describes roles and responsibilities specific to wildland fire activities. Primary departments identified to lead each ESF are responsible for coordinating and/or delegating the activities of the ESF. Additional roles and responsibilities to support associated emergency response efforts are described in the specific ESFs. Additional ESF may be activated to support the response as necessary. Please refer to the individual ESF annexes for a list of detailed responsibilities.

<b>ESF #4 – FIREFIGHTING</b>
<b>Primary Department: Fire Departments within Yolo County</b>
<b>Preparedness (Pre-event)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement fire suppression and prevention techniques, including fuel-reduction, vegetation management, maintenance and enforcement of firebreaks, and public education.</li></ul>
<b>Response</b>

## Wildfire Hazard Annex

- Identify areas to be evacuated and coordinate with ESF #13 – Law Enforcement and ESF #15 – Public Information to notify the public and secure the evacuated area.
- Command and coordinate fire suppression and rescue operations.
- Monitor and direct firefighting resources and response activities.
- Coordinate appropriate allocation of resources.
- Maintain contact with supporting departments.
- Request mutual aid through the Operational Area as needed.
- Coordinate and collaborate with mutual aid resources that have been deployed to support the City and County.
- Investigate the source of wildland fire and identify if any criminal activity had occurred.

### Recovery

- Release excess personnel and equipment according to demobilization plan.
- Coordinate with ESF #3 – Public Works and Engineering to assess damage to City infrastructure.
- Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.
- Participate in the After Action Report.

### ESF #6 – MASS CARE AND SHELTER

#### Primary Department: Health and Human Services Agency

### Preparedness (Pre-event)

- Identify shelter locations and resources that can be used during a wildland fire; consider locations that are not within the high or very high-risk fire risk area.

### Response

- Coordinate the opening and staffing of shelters within the City.
- Coordinate with the access and functional needs unit leader to ensure that the needs of populations with disabilities and others with access and functional needs are being met.
- Continue to assess the need for shelters and provide on-going analysis to the EOC.

### Recovery

- Close shelter locations when shelter needs are resolved.
- Provide information on disaster assistance (such as housing and disaster grants) to the EOC and the public.
- Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.
- Participate in the After Action Report.

<b>ESF # 8 – PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL</b>	
<b>Primary Departments: Health and Human Services Agency</b>	
<b>Preparedness (Pre-event)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordinate with Yolo County medical community to develop plans and procedures for health and medical facilities in the high fire risk areas.</li><li>• Provide strategic resource support and medical expertise to hospitals and health care facilities.</li></ul>	
<b>Response</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish and coordinate public health and medical support with the Yolo County Public Health Department via the Operational Area EOC.</li><li>• If the Yolo County hospitals are in a high risk area, provide non-medical support to evacuate or relocate patients.</li><li>• Coordinate with Yolo County Public Health via the Operational Area EOC on decontamination and other public health issues and warnings due to the fire.</li><li>• Develop and recommend objectives that protect the health of the county’s population during a Red Flag or wildfire event, including the various vulnerable populations.</li><li>• Coordinate all county healthcare facilities to ensure they have adequate fuel, water, and health supplies, and an adequate staffing plan.</li><li>• Coordinate with the Yolo County Housing Authority (YCHA) for outreach support to vulnerable populations and various homeless populations that may be impacted.</li></ul>	
<b>Recovery</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.</li><li>• Participate in the After Action Report.</li></ul>	

<b>ESF #10 – HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>	
<b>Primary Department: Yolo County Environmental Health Division and OA Fire Coordinators</b>	
<b>Preparedness (Pre-event)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop plans and procedures for responding to hazardous materials incidents during and following a wildland fire.</li></ul>	
<b>Response</b>	

## Wildfire Hazard Annex

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- Implement measures to prevent potential hazardous materials incidents in the wildland urban interface which may include prescribed burns, establishing fire breaks, and/or removal of hazardous materials from threatened locations.
- Coordinate hazardous materials response action with firefighting operations.
- Conduct analysis of the hazardous material impact.
- Support decontamination activities.

### Recovery

- Release excess personnel and equipment according to demobilization plan.
- Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.
- Participate in the After Action Report.

## ESF #11 – FOOD, AGRICULTURE, AND ANIMAL SERVICES

**Primary Department: Yolo County Agriculture Commissioner**

### Preparedness (Pre-event)

- Identify vendors that will be able to provide food and animal supplies during disasters for shelters and affected residents.
- Coordinate with owners and operators of agricultural facilities with high fire risk areas to develop plans and procedures for the evacuation of livestock.

### Response

- Coordinate the delivery of food and water to shelters for people and domestic animals.
- Coordinate the safe disposal of animal remains.
- Coordinate with ESF #10 – Hazardous Materials and ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical regarding the safety of agricultural food supplies.

### Recovery

- Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.
- Participate in the After Action Report

## ESF #13 – LAW ENFORCEMENT

**Primary Department: Yolo County Sheriff's Department**

**Preparedness (Pre-event)**

Develop plans and procedures to support evacuation and traffic management during a wildland fire.

**Response**

- In coordination with ESF #4 – Firefighting, designate area to be warned and/or evacuated.
- Provide security for evacuated areas.
- Provide security patrols and checkpoints to control access into the evacuated area.
- Establish emergency traffic routes in coordination with ESF #1 – Transportation, utilizing the Yolo County Operational Area Evacuation Plan; monitor that evacuation routes do not pass through hazard zones.
- Coordinate with the ESF #1 – Transportation traffic engineering to determine capacity and safety of evacuation routes and time necessary to complete evacuation.
- Identify alternate evacuation routes where necessary.
- Through field unit requests, identify persons/facilities that have functional evacuation requirements (i.e., those with disabilities and others with access or functional needs, hospitalized, elderly, institutionalized, incarcerated, etc.), check status and evacuate if necessary; coordinate with ESF #1 – Transportation, ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical, and the E-FNC for transportation needs.
- Prioritize the use of County vehicles and other resources for life saving missions.
- Establish evacuation assembly points in coordination with ESF #4 – Firefighting.
- Place towing services on stand-by to assist disabled vehicles on evacuation routes.
- Monitor status of warning and evacuation processes.
- Coordinate with ESF #3 – Public Works and Engineering and ESF #7 – Resources to obtain necessary barricades and signs.
- Coordinate law enforcement and crowd control services at evacuation assembly areas.
- Develop procedures for safe reentry into evacuated areas.

**Recovery**

- Release excess personnel and equipment according to demobilization plan.
- Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.
- Participate in the After Action Report.

**ESF #15 – PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**Primary Department: Public Information Officers**

**Preparedness (Pre-event)**

## Wildfire Hazard Annex

- Develop public education materials and disseminate to those in high fire risk areas.
- Develop pre-scripted messages for evacuations.

### Response

- Develop and issue timely and accurate instructions to the public on how to remain safe during a wildland fire.
- Work with other jurisdictions to release information in a coordinated manner.
- Monitor media outlets and control rumors.
- Coordinate with responders that may be interviewed to ensure that a consistent message is being distributed.

### Recovery

- Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.
- Participate in the After Action Report.

## ESF #16 – EVACUATION

### Primary Departments: Police Departments within Yolo County

#### Preparedness (Pre-event)

Identify and publish evacuation routes for high risk fire areas (consider the use of signs, direct mail, or through third party sources such as utility bills, phone books, etc.)..

#### Response

- Identify evacuation routes that should be used for the specific incident.
- Analyze and provide information on who should be evacuated and for how long and when the evacuation should start.
- Provide information to ESF #15 – Public Information on the evacuation order.
- Coordinate resources needed for the evacuation.
- Work with the AFN to ensure that populations with disabilities and others with access and functional needs have been notified and that evacuation support is available.
- Work with ESF #4 – Firefighting, ESF #13 – Law Enforcement, and ESF # 5 – Management on a reentry plan.

#### Recovery

- Complete required administrative and financial forms for reimbursement and to meet legal requirements.



- Participate in the After Action Report.

## 4.2 Departments and Agencies

### OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is the lead Operational Area (OA) agency for all four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Specifically, OES ensures the development, implementation, and maintenance of a comprehensive OA EOP and associated plans/annexes.

#### Planning

OES is responsible for ensuring the development, implementation, and maintenance of this hazard specific annex in accordance with the Annex Development and Maintenance provisions of this planning document.

#### Response

- In consultation with OES leadership and NWS, the OES duty officer (DO) will determine when a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning may pose a substantial threat of wildfire or other wildfire-related issues to the OA, and may choose to activate this annex
- If determined that a wildfire poses a significant threat of impact, the OES DO will schedule a conference call with the OA jurisdictions and partners up to 48 hours before an anticipated Red Flag Warning.
- If a determination by the local Fire Department anticipates critical fire weather activity prior to or independent of the NWS that is based on local weather and fuel models, the Fire Department may choose to contact the OES DO to issue a warning advisory to the public with the same messaging as the Fire Weather Watch.
- In the event of a wildfire, the best vantage point for evacuation considerations will be the Incident Commander or Unified Command at the incident. The OES DO should strive to ensure that all requests are being addressed and staffing for either a partial or full EOC activation has been communicated.
- OES DO will share the NWS forecast with HHSA and other appropriate allied agencies, as this provides HHSA lead-time in planning for emergency shelter activation and other sheltering needs.
- OES DO will continue to monitor NWS information throughout the entire event and will request spot forecasts, as needed.
- OES leadership will periodically hold a conference call with OA jurisdictions and partners and will request the following information from local jurisdictions and partners:

## **Wildfire Hazard Annex**

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- Current and planned preparedness or response actions (e.g., EOC or DOC activation, resource staging).
- Identify possible resource needs, limitations, and high-risk areas.

### **PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION**

Planning Public Works provides the engineering, inspection, maintenance, permitting and administrative services required to maintain and improve all of Yolo County's 752 miles of public roads, 147 bridges, roadside ditches, culverts, signs, guardrails, and other apparatuses.

#### Response

- Maintain and clear roads with debris.
- Provide situational awareness regarding road closures and debris removal for community access and egress.

### **YOLO COUNTY PARKS**

#### Planning

The mission of the Yolo County Parks Division is to protect natural resources and improve the quality of life by providing parks that offer boating, camping, and community parks.

#### Response

During a wildfire event, Yolo County Parks will provide the EOC and County partners with situational awareness regarding park closures, terrane, or other impacts, awareness of hazardous conditions, and monitoring guest safety.

### **COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS**

#### Planning

The Yolo Emergency Communications Agency (YECA) exists to protect lives, property, and the environment by providing dispatch services for police, fire, animal control, public works, and other local government agencies.

#### Response

County Communications can provide situational awareness regarding call volume for wildfire related calls. County Communications also may reach out to the OES Duty Officer or other agencies and jurisdictions to provide situational awareness. With the information provided, the Lead PIO, EOC Director, or OES Duty Officer coordinates together and may issue alert and warning messages through social media and other communication methods.

### **PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **AMERICAN RED CROSS**

#### Planning

## **Wildfire Hazard Annex**

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The American Red Cross (ARC) shelters, feeds, and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization.

### Response

During a wildfire, ARC would coordinate shelter beds with overnight accommodations throughout the County.

## **PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY**

### Planning

The Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is an investor-owned utility (IOU) that provides natural gas and electric service to a 70,000-square-mile service area in northern and central California, including Yolo County. PG&E is regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission. PG&E monitors fire weather and may issue energy forecasts, flex alerts, and Public Safety Power Shutoffs in an effort to serve their customers and protect PG&E infrastructure.

### Response

- Inspection and restoration of electric and gas infrastructure for re-entry and repopulation.
- Provide situational awareness regarding ongoing efforts.

## **OPERATIONAL AREA COUNTY OF YOLO**

As the lead agency in the OA, the County of Yolo is responsible for coordinating resources across the OA during a disaster. It is the primary point of contact for brokering resources among cities within the county and requesting state and federal resources when the need exceeds available resources at the local level.

## **STATE AGENCIES CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

### Planning

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) is responsible for coordination of overall state agency response to large scale disasters in support of local jurisdictions. Cal OES is responsible for assuring the State's readiness to respond to and recover from all emergencies or disasters—whether natural or human-caused emergencies and disasters—and for assisting local jurisdictions in their emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and hazard mitigation efforts.

### Response

- Host regional- or state-wide conference calls, if scale of wildfire event requires wider coordination.

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- Coordinate overall state agency response to large-scale disasters in support of local jurisdictions.
- Facilitate requests for state and federal aid and recovery activities between impacted or responsible agencies at the state, federal, OA, and local level.

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION**

#### Planning

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is responsible for fire protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres of California's privately-owned wildlands, including State

Responsibility Areas in Yolo County. In addition, CAL FIRE provides varied emergency services in 36 of the State's 58 counties via contracts with local governments.

#### Response

- Provide wildland fire fighting services in areas of Yolo County served by CAL FIRE's Brooks Station
- Provide mutual aid resources as appropriate.

### **CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (Cal EPA)**

The California Environmental Protection Agency is tasked on developing, implementing and enforcing the state's environmental protection laws that ensure clean air, clean water, clean soil, safe pesticides and waste recycling and reduction.

#### Response

In the event of a major wildfire, CalEPA may work alongside HHS to identify and address environmental factors that could be potentially harmful to the population of Yolo County.

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING & RECOVERY**

#### Planning

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) oversees and manages contractors and consultants to conduct local debris removal operations, including the removal of wildfire ash, debris, and contaminated soil, at no out-of-pocket cost to property owners. Homeowners who choose to participate in the debris removal phase of the state-managed cleanup program are required to return signed right of entry forms to their local governments.

#### Response

The state-managed debris removal program has two phases: removal of household hazardous waste and removal of other fire-related debris.

- Phase 1: Household Hazardous Waste Removal.
- Phase 2: Debris Removal, including:

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- Site assessment and documentation.
- Debris removal.
- Confirmation sampling
- Erosion control measures
- Final inspection.

## FEDERAL AGENCIES

### NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

#### Planning

The National Weather Service (NWS) is a component of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA is an Operating Unit of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The NWS' mission is to provide weather, water, and climate data, forecasts, and warnings for the protection of life and property and the economy.

#### Response

- Provide initial notification of upcoming high fire danger weather activity
- Provide spot forecasts as requested.
- Develop and distribute timely meteorology products in support of emergency actions and as requested.

### FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

FEMA is the lead Federal agency for consequence management, which entails both preparedness for and dealing with the consequences of a major wildfire. Although the affected State and local governments have primary jurisdiction for emergencies, a major wildfire causing mass destruction could create havoc beyond their capability to respond. If this were to happen, FEMA would coordinate consequence management activities including measures to alleviate damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused by the incident; to protect public health and safety; to restore essential government services; and to provide emergency assistance by a Presidential Declaration. FEMA would implement the Federal Response Plan, cooperating with State and local emergency response agencies. Final authority to make decisions on-scene regarding the consequences of the incident (rescue and treatment of casualties, protective actions for the affected community) rests with the local Incident Commander.

## 4.3 Evaluate Effectiveness

### After Action Reports

After Action Reporting is necessary to provide a mechanism where successes, failures, and improvements are assessed and considered for inclusion in OES plans. OES and all responding departments/agencies are responsible for compiling and developing the After-Action Report (AAR). OES will solicit input from individuals who responded to the event. All After Action Reports are due within 90 days of the end of the event.

## **SECTION 5.0: AUTHORITIES**

Emergency response, like all governmental action, is based on legal authority and has nationally recognized best-practices. The Wildfire Annex is a functional annex to the overall Yolo County Emergency Operations Plan, and follows local, state, and federal guidelines.

### **LOCAL**

- Yolo County Emergency Operations Plan
- Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).
- Director of Emergency Services as designated by Title 4, Chapter 1 – Emergency Services of the County of Yolo Government Code.

### **STATE**

- Statewide Alert and Warning Guidelines, 2019
- CalFire Community Wildfire Prevention & Mitigation Report (in response to executive order N-05- 19)
- California Department of Public Health Wildfire Cleanup Information for California Health Officials 2019
- California Department of Public Health Wildfire Smoke: Public Health Considerations 2019. Cascading Effects and Escalation in wildfire Power Failures (2017)
- Accessibility to Emergency Information and Services, Government Code § 8593.3.
- California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) (Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations).
- California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement.
- California Emergency Services Act, (Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 7 of the Government Code).
- Emergency Function 8 – Public Health and Medical.
- Standardized Emergency Management System Regulations (SEMS) Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 1 of the California Code of Regulations.
- State of California Emergency Plan.
- Cal. Gov. Code §§ 8634, 8655; California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, Legal Guidelines for Controlling Movement of People and Property During an Emergency (Sacramento, CA, 1999), 8, 19, 23, 24, 32.
- Cal. Pen. Code § 409.5(a); Cal. Health & Saf. Code § 101040(a).
- *Leiserson v. City of San Diego* (1986) 184 Cal. App. 3d 41, 51 (*Leiserson II*).
- Cal. Gov. Code § 8634.

### **FEDERAL**

- Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (Executive Order 13166).
- Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness (Executive Order 13347).
- Homeland Security Act.

- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP).
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 management of domestic incidents.
- National Engagement – Planning Consideration: Evacuation and Shelter-In-Place August 9, 2018.
- National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- National Response Framework (NRF) 2016.
- National Disaster Recovery Framework.
- Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act (PL 109-308).
- Post-Disaster Safety Assessment Program: Guideline to the Activation and Utilization of Program Resources.
- Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8: National Preparedness.
- Public Law 920, Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950 (PL 920).
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 93-288) as amended
- Sandy Recovery Improvement Act.
- Title 44 Emergency Management and Assistance

## SECTION 6.0: ANNEX MAINTENANCE

Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is responsible for overseeing the development and maintenance of this Wildfire Annex. Maintenance and update of this plan will be consistent with the overall Yolo County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) maintenance and update policies. At a minimum, the OES contact will coordinate and conduct an annual review of this plan with all support agencies. Additional reviews may be conducted if experience with an incident or if a regulatory change indicates a need.

Recommendations for change will be submitted to Yolo County OES for approval, publication, and distribution. Exercise of the provisions of this plan should occur periodically. Inclusion of State and other partners is strongly encouraged in functional exercises. Each response and support agency will develop internal procedures for administrative support.

## SECTION 7.0: DEFINITIONS

- **Access and Functional Needs (AFN):** As defined by the National Response Framework (NRF) Access and Functional Needs may be present before, during, or after an incident in one of more areas and may include, but are not limited to, communication, medical care, maintaining independence, supervision, and transportation
- **American Red Cross (Red Cross):** The Red Cross is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. It does this through services that are consistent with its Congressional Charter and the Principles of the International Red Cross Movement.
- **Community-Based Organization (CBO):** Non-profit organizations that operate within a single local community and constitute a subset of the wider group of NGOs. They are

- frequently run by volunteers and often self-funding. Some are formally incorporated with written charters and boards of directors, while others are much smaller and more informal.
- **Emergency Operations Center (EOC):** A centralized location where individuals responsible for responding to a large scale emergency can have immediate communication with each other and with emergency management personnel for the purpose of enhancing coordination in exercising direction and control of emergency response and recovery efforts.
  - **Emergency Operations Plan (EOP):** The EOP is the document that describes strategies for managing emergency situations.
  - **Emergency Support Functions (ESFs):** The organization of governmental and private entities into discipline-specific groups so as to aid in the provision of services during responses. Part of the National Response Framework. There are 15 ESFs: Transportation (ESF1); Communication (ESF2); Public Works and Engineering (ESF3); Firefighting (ESF4); Emergency Management (ESF5); Mass Care, Housing, and Human Services (ESF6); Resources Support (ESF7); Public Health and Medical Services (ESF8); Urban Search and Rescue (ESF9); Oil and Hazardous Materials Response (ESF10); Agriculture and Natural Resources (ESF11); Energy (ESF12); Public Safety and Security (ESF13); Long-term Community Recovery and Mitigation (ESF14); External Affairs (ESF15)
- Evacuation:** Organized and supervised dispersal of people from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas.
- **Evacuation Order:** Danger is imminent, residents need to leave immediately.
  - **Evacuation Route:** A road or series of roads used to move people away from an incident in a safe manner.
  - **Evacuation Warning:** Danger is expected in the next 4-6 hours, residents should be prepared to leave if or when conditions change or leave now as a precaution.
  - **Fire Weather Watch:** Notice issued by the National Weather Service when weather conditions which may result in extreme fire behavior could exist in the next 12-72 hours. A Fire Weather Watch is one level below a Red Flag Warning, but still indicates high fire danger.
  - **Hazard:** Any source of danger or element of risk to people or property.
  - **Hazardous Material:** Any substance or material that when involved in an accident and released in enough quantities, poses a risk to people's health, safety, and/or property. These substances and materials include explosives, radioactive materials, flammable liquids or solids, combustible liquids or solids, poisons, oxidizers, toxins, and corrosive materials.
  - **Incident:** An occurrence or event, either human-caused or by natural phenomena, that requires action by emergency response personnel to prevent or minimize loss of life or damage to property and the environment.
  - **Incident Action Plan (IAP):** is an organized course of events that addresses all phases of incident control within a specified time. An IAP is necessary to effect successful outcomes in any situation, especially emergency operations, in a timely manner. Tactics are measurable in both time and performance.
  - **Incident Commander (IC):** The individual responsible for the command of all functions at the field response level.



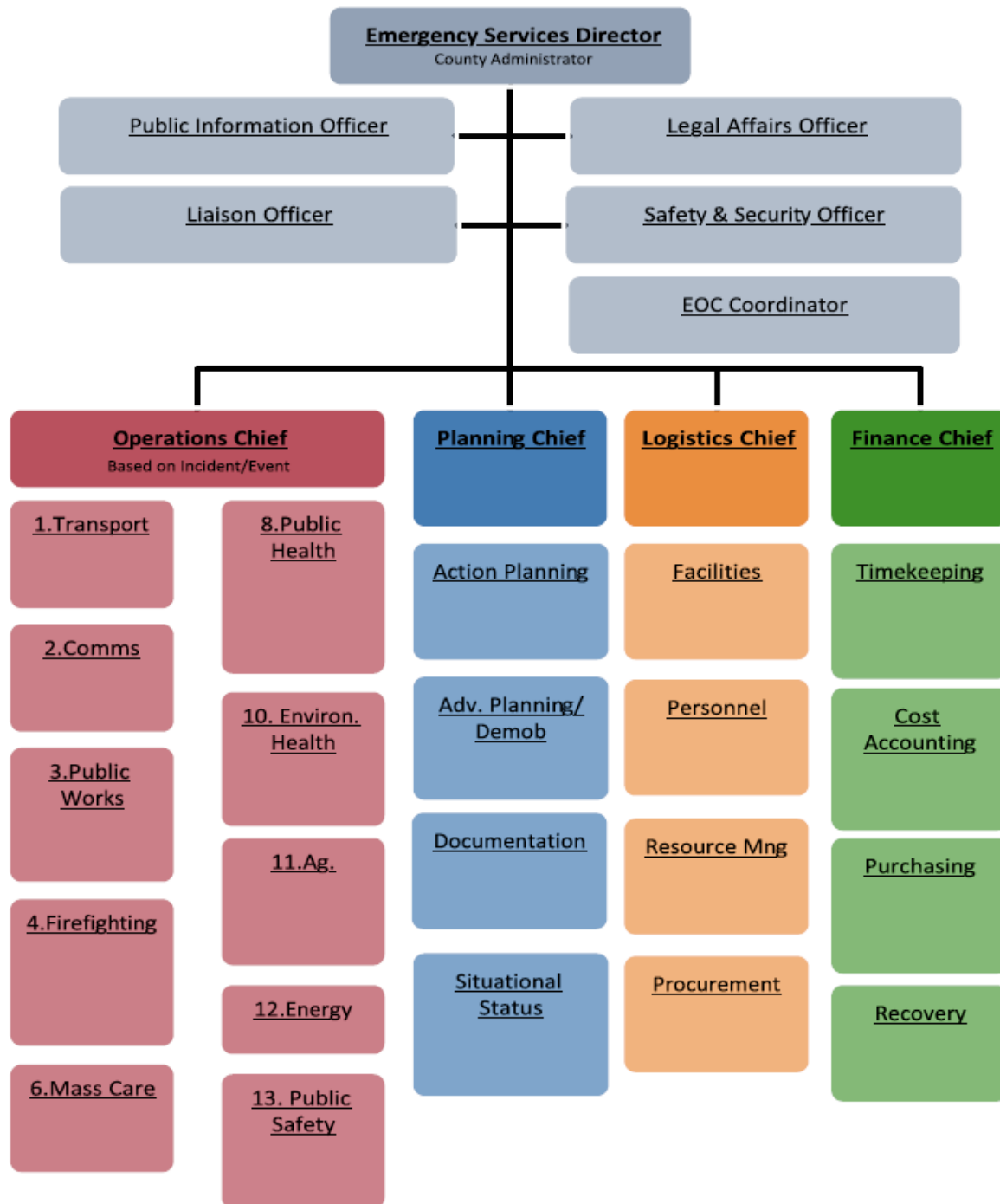
- **Incident Command System (ICS):** A nationally used standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the field level component of SEMS.
- **Mass Care and Shelter:** The actions that are taken to feed and house the affected population from the effects of a disaster. Activities include providing temporary shelter, food, medical care, clothing, and other essential life support needs to those people that have been displaced from their homes because of a disaster or threatened disaster.
- **Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA):** The California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement made and entered into by and among the State of California, its various departments and agencies, and the various political subdivisions of the State.
- **Mutual Aid:** Voluntary aid and assistance in the event that a disaster should occur, by the interchange of services and facilities, including, but not limited to fire, police, medical and health, communication and transportation services and facilities, to cope with the problems of rescue, relief, evacuation, rehabilitation and reconstruction which would arise in the event of a disaster. Mutual aid is designed to ensure that adequate resources, facilities, and other support are provided to jurisdictions whenever their own resources prove to be inadequate to cope with a given situation.
- **National Incident Management System (NIMS):** The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a comprehensive approach to emergency management for all hazards. NIMS integrates existing best practices into a consistent nationwide approach to domestic emergency management that is applicable to all jurisdictional levels (public and private) and across functional disciplines. NIMS is based on a balance of flexibility and standardization. NIMS is flexible and allows government and private entities at all levels to work together to manage domestic emergencies, regardless of their cause, size, location, or complexity. NIMS also provides a set of standardized organizational structures.
- **National Response Framework:** The National Response Framework (NRF) presents the guiding principles that enable all response partners to prepare for and provide a unified national response to disasters and emergencies – from the smallest incident to the largest catastrophe. The Framework establishes a comprehensive, national, all-hazards approach to domestic incident response. The Framework documents the key response principles, roles, and structures that organize national response. It describes how communities, States, the Federal Government, and private-sector and non-governmental partners apply these principles for a coordinated, effective national response. And it describes special circumstances where the Federal Government exercises a larger role, including incidents where Federal interests are involved and catastrophic incidents where a State would require significant support. It allows first responders, decision makers, and supporting entities to provide a unified national response.
- **Non-Governmental Organization (NGO):** An entity with an association that is based on interests of its members, individuals, or institutions, and that is not created by a government, but may work cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose, not a private benefit. Examples of NGOs include faith-based charity organizations and the Red Cross.

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- **Operational Area (OA):** An intermediate level of the state emergency services organization, consisting of a county and all political subdivisions within the county area.
- **Situational Report (Sit Rep):** is a form of status reporting that provides decision-makers and readers a quick understanding of the current situation. It provides a clear, concise understanding of the situation—focusing on meaning or context, in addition to the facts.
- **Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS):** The consistent set of rules and procedures governing the overall operational control or coordination of emergency operations specified in CCR Title 19, Division 2, §2400 et sec.

# Appendix A: ICS Organizational Chart



# Appendix B: Record of Changes

(Note: File each revision transmittal letter behind this record page.)

Version Number	Implemented BY	Date	Approved By	Approval Date	Description of Change
1	Yolo OES	August 2023			
2	Yolo OES	August 2024			
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					