



OSFM Talking Points on Oregon Fire Agency Deployments to California December 2017

Although Oregon sent strike teams to California earlier this year, the deployment of Oregon fire agencies to assist California is an unusual occurrence, but it does generate significant local interest from the cities and towns whose fire agencies have deployed personnel and equipment to assist. This will result in many news outlets wanting to get first-hand reports from their local firefighters on the front lines in California. These interviews are an opportunity for promoting the capabilities of local responders, the OSFM, and Oregon's ability to respond rapidly working through our state mobilization plan.

If you are contacted by a member of the media for an interview our first request is that you refer them to the OSFM Public Information Officer Rich Hoover (contact info below) for information or interview coordination which we will accomplish through our agency representatives deployed to California. If that is not possible please use the following talking points as central themes in your messages.

Talking Points:

- California fire officials requested additional resources through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.
- The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a mutual aid agreement between states and territories of the United States. It enables states to share resources during natural and man-made disasters, including terrorism. EMAC complements the national disaster response system.
- Oregon's robust response system and emergency mobilization plan allowed Oregon to respond with resources within hours.

- Once notified of the request by Oregon Office of Emergency Management, the OSFM activated its Agency Operations Center and activated its Emergency Mobilization Plan through Oregon's fire defense board chiefs. Fire agencies from 12 different counties responded to create 10 strike teams.
- The OSFM will keep its Agency Operations Center open to help maintain communication and management of deployed resources.
- Oregon resources are expected to be deployed for 14 days.
- California assisted Oregon with battling several wildfires this summer and Oregon is proud to be able to respond for California in their time of need.
- The OSFM receives daily updates from our two agency representatives deployed to California.
- The OSFM will communicate any significant updates regarding the Oregon deployments to Oregon fire defense board chiefs daily.
- Refer deployment questions to OSFM Public Information Officer Rich Hoover, desk phone 503-934-8217 or pager 503-370-0033

Links to California wildfire information:

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CALFIRE/>

https://twitter.com/CAL_FIRE