



# Central Zone Operations

Alpine - Barona - El Cajon - Lakeside - La Mesa - Lemon Grove  
San Miguel - Santee - Sycuan - Viejas  
Bonita - Heartland Dispatch

## D-11.1 Multi-Tiered Wildland Dispatching

### ZONE 4

The Heartland Communications Facility Authority employs a multi-tiered wildland dispatching plan for responses to hostile fires in designated wildland areas. The basic premise of this plan is to gear the specified fire suppression response to actual wildland burning conditions based primarily upon likelihood of ignition of a wildland fire and its propensity to spread. The more serious these factors, the higher level of initial attack forces dispatched.

Fire weather information is obtained from the RAWS Observation Weather Station. These weather observations are taken daily during fire season at or near 0730, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600 and 2000 and such other times as may be identified. If RAWS is down or not working the following procedure is used as a backup:

The fire weather observations taken at Lakeside Station 26 are used to compute the ignition component and spread component, which, when placed on a matrix, set the dispatch level at low, medium, or high. These weather observations are taken daily during fire season at or near 0730, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600 and 2000 and such other times as may be identified. Station 26 should call us shortly after these times with the weather information; should this not be done (and personnel are known to be at Station 26), the HCFA dispatcher shall call Station 26 about 15 minutes after each of these hours to obtain the wildland dispatch level. Whenever this level changes, the new dispatch level is broadcast to all ZONE 4 Chief Officers through use of the group call.

Wildland areas are denoted in the CAD. Should the reported fire be in a designated wildland area, the appropriate level of response based upon the current dispatch level is sent.

Response at the various levels are shown below:

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>LOW</b>    | <b>2 Type 1 engines</b><br><b>1 Type 3 engine</b><br><b>1 Duty Chief</b>                           |
| <b>MEDIUM</b> | <b>3 Type 1 engines</b><br><b>2 Type 3 engines</b><br><b>1 Water Tender</b><br><b>1 Duty Chief</b> |



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### **HIGH**

**3 Type 1 engines**

**2 Type 3 engines**

**1 Water Tender**

**2 Duty Chief**

- If no type 3 engines are available, replace the type 3 engines with type 1 engines (example: If there are no type 3 engines available for a HIGH Wildland Dispatch the dispatch would include 7 type 1 engines, 1 Water Tender and 2 Duty Chiefs).

In all cases, if the fire is burning on, or threatening State Responsibility Area lands, CDFFP or FRA, shall be immediately notified and will respond if they have resources available.

Mutual Threat Zones (MTZ) have been agreed upon by the agencies that have Local Response Areas (LRA) between CAL Fire and Central Zone Agencies. This response is made from Monte Vista and Central Zone agencies on wildland fire incidents that fall within the MTZ. The agency boundary is within one mile unless otherwise agreed upon by CAL Fire and local agency.