

# Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committee (MARAC)

The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) was established by state legislation: Senate Bill (SB) 1841, Chapter 1069, Statutes of 1992, which went into effect January 1, 1993 (California Government Code Section 8607). [The SEMS Maintenance System](#) was developed as a means to establish and formalize a process for supporting the ongoing improvement and maintenance of California's overall system for emergency management, including SEMS.

The SEMS Maintenance System consists of three levels of operation: an Advisory Board, a Technical Group, and Six Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committees (MARACs). The MARACs were established to provide a broad base for local government participation in the SEMS Maintenance System and are a principal source of input and information into the system. Recommendations from these committees to the SEMS Technical Group provide a means by which SEMS is maintained and improved.

Each MARAC consists of:

- The Cal OES Regional Administrator, or deputy, for the Administrative Region encompassing the mutual aid region(s)
- Regional Mutual Aid Coordinators (fire, law enforcement, disaster medical and other established mutual aid systems)
- A representative from each Operational Area located within the mutual aid region
- Representatives from two municipalities (small/large and rotates bi-annually)
- Regional Public Utility Representative
- Private utility representative (rotates bi-annually)
- Special District Representative
- Other designee as appointed by an individual MARAC

Responsibilities of the MARAC are to:

- Adopt regional goals and objectives that support the development and implementation of SEMS.
- Ensure that local governments, operational areas, special districts and other organizations, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations, are kept informed of the latest information on emergency management and on SEMS.
- Recommend changes or modifications to SEMS to the SEMS Technical Group.
- Provide personnel and/or technical support to SEMS Specialist Committees as appropriate.
- Ensure that local agencies and jurisdictions are provided the opportunity for ongoing comment and suggestions for system improvements.

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Please refer to the Southern Region web page for Regions I and VI MARAC meeting details.