

Statewide Emergency Preparedness Coordination Group

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 30, 2023
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Cal OES Headquarters, MPR 2
Next Meeting: November 9, 2023

Topics presented:

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Weather Service, Scott Rowe**
 - Senior Service Hydrologist at Sacramento WFO
 - Winter 2022-2023 recap
 - About 24 atmospheric river storms into the state
 - 250-300% Snow
 - Eliminated drought status for much of the state
 - Outlooks
 - El Nino is observed today—could be the climate pattern in the Pacific Ocean and could cause global impacts
 - 95% chance it will continue in California through winter months (maybe into March - April - May at 80% chance)
 - 66% chance becoming strong El Nino
 - Northern California and Sierra Nevada = about 30% chance of each normal, dry, wet
 - Southern California will be a much higher chance of high precipitation
 - Into Fall
 - Above normal temperatures
 - Equal chance for precipitation
 - Fire season will continue until statewide rains starts and currently unknown when that will occur
 - Winter
 - Northern California above average precipitation
 - No change to Red Flag products
 - Particularly dangerous situation
 - Peak Fire Season now
 - Some of the deadliest fire after followed wet winters (high fuel loads)



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- inws.ncep.noaa.gov - sign up for text message alert for weather products
- **California ISO (CAISO), Cristy Sanada, Senior Manager, California Regulatory Affairs**
 - California Energy Commission (CEC) and California Public Utilities Commission interaction (CPUC)
 - CAISO - federally-regulated, nonprofit, independent technology neutral organization manages 80% of high-voltage transmission systems in California (and part of Nevada)
 - Operates wholesale electricity market (from the utilities like PG&E, Southern California Edison Company, etc., from the power generators)
 - Long-term transmission infrastructure
 - Regulated by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, compliant with Northern American Electric Reliability Corporation, and part of Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC)
 - Sept 6, 2022 = 2022 52,061 megawatt (MW), 32 million people served, 224.8 million megawatt-hours of electricity delivered (2020)
 - ISO is the largest balancing area in the WECC
 - Balancing supply and demand 24/7 for ISO's grid
 - Sacramento Municipality Utilities District and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power are its balancing authority
 - Long-term planning
 - Emergency Playbook and Energy Emergency Alerts (EEA)
 - EEAs available online
 - EEA 3 - preparing step for rotating power outages
 - EEA 3 - ordering rotating power outages (last used 2020)
 - Mid-September usually toughest for power use in the state
 - Heat Event Process and Communications, Four to Seven Days Out Playbook
 - In the next three years, CAISO looking to reach 10,000 MW battery (mostly) capacity
- **State Emergency Plan (SEP), Andrew Rush**
 - Question: Severe railroad incidents - covered in the SEP?
Answer: No, there are separate plans that cover that.
 - Question: Will the California Emergency Support Function (CA-ESF) Annexes be updated?
Answer: Working since 2019 to update CA-ESF Annexes working since 2019. The non-Cal OES departments have responsibilities to get them updated.
 - Question: Will others view the adjudication process?

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Answer: No, not outside of the team and management. We are collecting comments and forwarding to state agencies and departments if relevant.

- **Catastrophic (Cat) Incident Base Plan Revise, Tony Vasquez**

- Base Plan
 - Four Catastrophic Plans – all built from the SEP
 - Bay Area
 - So Cal
 - Flood Plan
 - Cascadia Plan
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) used to provide funding to do these cat plans with Fed and State
- Doing a four to five year plan is too slow, so need new processes to create plans faster
- Most of these plans are 500 pages or longer with a mix of common and unique components
- Seven pages of questions to resolve to fix
- Base plan would pull common elements from the existing individual plans and the annexes would retain the geographical and incident specific information
- Plan development - six steps - at step one, form a collaborative planning team

- **Round table**

- CDSS Disaster Volunteer Programs, Kasmira Kit
 - Volunteer Emergency Services Team (VEST) - any state employee can serve and can volunteer for different tasks (paid by their home agency, travel paid by CDSS), one day training, currently 139 people
 - Functional Assessment Services Team (FAST) – three day training, requires experience in Access and Functional Needs, currently 52 people
 - Both go to shelters when there is a need to help Co Shelter
- California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI), Tracy Stocks
 - CSTI wants to reach out to state agencies/departments because training overhauls might impact those agency/department
- Mutual Aid Advisory Committee
 - OA briefing out - Coastal Region Invite list if interested
- California Department of Education (CDE), Jake Wolf
 - Develop agency emergency plan. CDE has met with Cal OES, and we are asking if there are other relevant stakeholders interested. CDE does hold monthly coordination calls with school districts - if interested or have work involved with CDE, let Jake to know so you can be added.