



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

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Contact:

Lilly Wyatt

Public Information & Media Relations

916-845-8445

Lilly.Wyatt@CalOES.ca.gov

Southern California Receives Fire Resources through Cal OES

Los Alamitos – As high temperatures continue throughout the state, firefighters continue to battle 10 fires burning in Southern California consuming approximately 10,000 acres, destroying homes and property and causing evacuations.

On May 14, 2014, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. declared a State of Emergency in San Diego County directing state agencies to use state personnel, equipment and facilities to perform any and all activities in support of the county that are consistent with the direction of Cal OES and the State Emergency Plan.

Cal OES Fire and Rescue Branch has deployed 15 strike teams composed for 5 engines each and 1 water tender to the fires. These engines are owned by Cal OES and staffed by firefighters from around the state. Through the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, we have also coordinated the deployed 56 strike teams composed of engines owned and staffed by local fire agencies. For the full list of assets in the field [CLICK HERE](#) (as of May 16, 2014).

Yesterday, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved a request from Gov. Brown for a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) to help ensure the availability of vital resources to extinguish the Poinsettia and Cocos.

Fire and cover response-related costs incurred by local, state and tribal agencies that have responded. Fires such as these can put a strain on resources, particularly at a time when dry conditions due to the drought, above normal temperatures and winds have increased the wildfire threat significantly.

This grant will help ensure firefighting costs do not burden the response and are available to help incident commanders, firefighters and the other first responders assigned to the fire protect the lives and property of those who live and work in harm's way. The grant is provided on a cost-share basis and will enable local, state and tribal agencies responding to the fire at the request of incident commanders to apply for a 75-percent reimbursement of costs related to mobilization, demobilization, travel and labor. Equipment and supply use, administrative activities and other fire-related costs are also eligible for reimbursement. Responding local, state and tribal agencies are responsible for the remaining 25 percent of their costs.

The grant will not only help ensure incident commanders have adequate resources, it will help reduce the some of the financial burden on local, state and tribal agencies that have been deployed to the fire, as well as the taxpayers in the communities they normally serve at a time when many departments are

facing budgetary challenges and fire conditions throughout the state that are likely to get worse, rather than better, as the fire season continue.

In addition, to securing FMAG grants, Cal OES has:

- Deployed Assistant Chiefs Bill Bondshu, Ish Messer, Art Torrez, and John Salvate from the Cal OES Fire and Rescue Branch to the incident command posts;
- Deployed an Assistant Chief Paul Walters from the Cal OES Law Enforcement Division and an Emergency management expert from the Cal OES Southern Region to the San Diego County Operations Center;
- Deployed Deputy Chief Dennis Beene from the Cal OES Law Enforcement Division to the San Diego County Sheriff's Departmental Operations Center to coordinate law enforcement mutual aid and;
- Deployed Senior Emergency Coordinator Sonia Brown, Emergency Services Coordinator Yvette LaDuke and Regional Administrator Mona Bontty from our Southern Region to support operations at the operational area emergency operations center.

Additional information is available at:

- California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Current Wildfire Maps
- Cal OES Twitter @Cal_OES
- San Diego County Emergency Site
- Cal FIRE Current Incident Information
- US Forest Service Active Fire Mapping Page
- San Diego Fire-Rescue Department
- Fire Stations list for SD Fire-Rescue Department
- San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Facebook
- UC San Marcos Front Page