East Bay Hills Fire Report

OES CALIFORNIA
California Office of Emergency Services

Past Fires in Same Area

- 1970 37 Homes Burned
- 1923 600 Homes Burned

October 20, 1991 Conditions

92° F 16% Humidity Winds up to 20 MPH – N.E.

East Bay Hills Fire Statistics

25 Fatalities 150 Injured 1600+ Acres Burned

3354 Homes Burned 456 Apartments Burned

790 Homes Destroyed in First Hour

Damage $1.5 Billion +

One Home Every Eleven Seconds For First 10 Hours

Largest Mobilization of Fire Mutual Aid Resources

For a Single Fire in California

East Bay Hills Fire Report
Key Points

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- Mitigation Remains Key
  - Roofing
  - Planning/Standards
  - Vegetation/Clearance
  - Access & Egress
- Fire Weather Conditions – Red Flag Actions
- Wildland Fire Training and Mop-Up Technique
- Enhance Fire Dispatch/Communications Capability
  - 911/Telephone Lines Saturated
  - Need for Outgoing Lines
  - Training/Authority:
    Mutual Aid and Air Resources
  - Communications Incompatibility
  - Need Frequency Management/Monitoring
- Air Operations Procedures
  - Clear Ordering Guidelines
  - Air Operations in Urban Area Questions

East Bay Hills Fire Report
Key Points

- Hydrant Adapter Policy Modification Needed
- Management Over-extended
- Department Strength Cuts a Factor (25%)
- Upgrade Water Grid and Pumping Capability
- Prepare for Worst-Case Situations
- Recognize Catastrophic Conditions and React Accordingly
- Enhance Speed of Mutual Aid System
- Advocate Automatic Aid and Boundary Drop Agreements
- Incident Command System:Not Just Fire Service
- Consider Volunteer Issues
- Better Information Sharing: Command Post - EOC - Media
- Emergency Public Information is a Priority:Team Approach
- Evacuation Training and Coordination Important
- Media Access is Important
- EBS and EDIS Marketing and Planning Required

MUTUAL AID TRAINING BEFORE INCIDENT:

97% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAVE ADOPTED ICS AND USE IT IN DAILY OPERATIONS.

11% OF THE ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED ICS I-120.

34% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED ICS I-120.

27% OF THE ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED ICS I-220.

29% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED ICS I-220.

82% OF THE ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS HAD RECEIVED ICS I-334.

54% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED ICS I-334.

87% OF THE ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 2E (WILDLAND FIRE TACTICS).

64% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 2E.

76% OF THE ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 2D (MANAGING LARGE SCALE DISASTER).

56% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 2D.

84% OF THE ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 2A (COMMAND TACTICS AT MAJOR FIRES).

66% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 2A.

91% OF THE ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 1A (COMMAND PRINCIPALS FOR COMPANY OFFICERS).

84% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED COMMAND 1A.

79% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED PROPER ICS TRAINING TO PREPARE THEM FOR OUT OF COUNTY INCIDENTS.

95% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY CONDUCT ANNUAL WILDLAND TRAINING.

62% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEIR OES OPERATIONAL AREA HAVE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR COMPANY LEVEL PERSONNEL.

56% OF ST/LDRS AND ASST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEIR OES OPERATIONAL AREA CONDUCTS AN ANNUAL STRIKE LEADER REFRESHER CLASS.

84% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEIR OES OPERATIONAL AREAS HAVE PRE-PLANNED DISPATCH FOR OUT OF COUNTY MUTUAL AID (BOTH ENGINES AND ST/LR).

74% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEIR OES OPERATIONAL AREAS HAVE PREDETERMINED RENDEZVOUS AREAS.

68% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE FAMILIAR WITH OES FORM F-42 "EMERGENCY ACTIVITY RECORD".

55% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR ADDITIONAL TRAINING ON THE OES F-42 FORM.

69% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS.

73% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD AN ASST/LDR.

65% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THE ASST/LDRS WERE FROM THEIR DEPARTMENT.

95% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEIR VEHICLE WAS EQUIPPED WITH A MULTI-CHANNEL RADIO.

RENDEZVOUS:

29% OF THE ST/LDRS CONDUCTED VEHICLE INSPECTIONS AND TAILGATE SESSIONS REVEALED PROBLEMS.

7% OF THOSE PROBLEMS CAUSED RESPONSE DELAYS:

NEEDED FUEL

MECHANICAL

FREQUENCIES

TOO MANY PERSONNEL

PERSONNEL LATE

CONFLICT WITH ST/LDR

LACK OF EQUIPMENT- FIRE SHELTERS, SCBA, FITTINGS, SAFETY GEAR.

91% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE EQUIPPED WITH PROPER WILDLAND SAFETY GEAR.

99% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE EQUIPPED WITH PROPER STRUCTURE SAFETY GEAR.

6% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEIR STRIKE TEAM SUFFERED A MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN ENROUTE AND WERE DELAYED.

83% OF THE APPARATUS MEET ICS TYPING.

63% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEIR APPARATUS WERE EQUIPPED FOR EXTENDED OPERATIONAL PERIODS (FOOD, WATER, SLEEPING BAGS, CHANGE OF CLOTHES).

48% OF THE ENGINES WERE EQUIPPED WITH CREDIT CARDS OR MONEY FOR FUEL AND MINOR REPAIRS.

77% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE EQUIPPED WITH CREDIT CARDS OR MONEY FOR FUEL AND MINOR REPAIRS.

82% OF THE ST/LDRS WERE EQUIPPED WITH MAPS OF THE AREA.

OPERATIONS:

62% OF STRIKE TEAMS WERE DISPATCHED CODE 3.

59% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE GIVEN A TACTICAL RADIO FREQUENCY ON ARRIVAL.

66% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THE INCIDENT HAD AN ESTABLISHED CHECK-IN PROCEDURE.

CHECK-IN:

60% STAGING AREA.

16% INCIDENT COMMAND POST.

12% DIVISION/BRANCH.

12% OTHER.

83% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE GIVEN CLEAR UNDERSTANDABLE ASSIGNMENTS.

30% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THEY HAD SAFETY PROBLEMS.

47% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED SAFETY PROBLEMS, BUT WERE ABLE TO CORRECT THEM IN A TIMELY MANNER.

61% REPORTED WATER SUPPLY PROBLEMS.

80% REPORTED DOWN POWER LINES AND TREE PROBLEMS.

55% REPORTED ROADS TOO NARROW OR TOO STEEP TO OPERATE APPARATUS ON.

43% REPORTED CIVILIANS LEAVING OR COMING INTO THE AREA CAUSED PROBLEMS.

42% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THEY NEEDED ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND 52% OF THEM WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN THEM.

40% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THEY WERE REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION IN NUMEROUS AREAS. THIS WAS DUE TO COMMAND AND CONTROL PROBLEMS.

33% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED MECHANICAL PROBLEMS WITH APPARATUS IN THEIR STRIKE TEAM.

63% OF THE TIME THEY WERE CORRECTED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

71% OF THE ST/LDRS WERE ABLE TO COORDINATE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH ADJOINING FORCES.

88% OF THE ST/LDRS REPORTED THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO COMPLETE THEIR FIRE LINE ASSIGNMENTS.

HOW LONG WERE STRIKE TEAM ON THE LINE?

35% 0 HOURS TO 12 HOURS.

23% 12 HOURS TO 24 HOURS.

19% 24 HOURS TO 36 HOURS.

8% 36 HOURS TO 48 HOURS.

5% 48 HOURS TO 50 HOURS.

3% 50 HOURS TO 62 HOURS.

4% 74 HOURS TO 86 HOURS.

3% 86 HOURS TO 111 HOURS.

81% OF THE ST/LDRS REPORTED THAT CREW CHANGES WERE MADE DURING THE COURSE OF THE INCIDENT.

29% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEIR OES OPERATIONAL AREAS HAVE A STANDARD REPLACEMENT POLICY.

80% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION COMPLETED ON THEIR STRIKE TEAMS IN THE FUTURE.

BASE CAMP:

92% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN APPARATUS SUPPORT SERVICES (FUEL, OIL AND RELATED MAINTENANCE).

93% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN HOT MEALS AND SACK LUNCHES FROM:

78% SALVATION ARMY.

85% AMERICAN RED CROSS.

31% HOME OWNERS.

92% INCIDENT BASE.

1% REPORTED PERSONNEL GETTING SICK.

75% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN SUPPLIES: (SAFETY EQUIPMENT, SLEEPING BAGS, REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT ETC).

76% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE PROVIDED SHELTER INDOORS.

59% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE AWARE THAT THERE WAS A MEDICAL UNIT AVAILABLE.

18% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD PERSONNEL RECEIVED MINOR FIRE RELATED ILLNESS OR INJURIES ON THE INCIDENT.

11% OF THE DEPARTMENT INDICATED DELAYED FIRE RELATED ILLNESS OR INJURIES TO PERSONNEL AFTER RETURNING.

DEMOBILIZATION:

23% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED MECHANICAL PROBLEMS DURING APPARSTUS SAFETY CHECKS.

57% OF THOSE WERE CORRECTED.

4% HAD TO LEAVE THE APPARATUS FOR REPAIRS OR HAVE THEM TRANSPORTED BACK.

DEMOBILIZATION PROBLEM AREAS:

36% MECHANICAL /SAFETY INSPECTION.

18% SUPPLY UNIT.

10% COMMUNICATIONS UNIT.

36% OTHER.

62% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THE LOGISTICS SECTION SUPPORTED THE INCIDENTS NEEDS.

84% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT OVERALL THE DEMOBILIZATION PROGRESSED IN A SMOOTH AND COORDINATED MANNER.

68% OF THE ST/LDRS INDICATED THAT THEY KNEW THEIR AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES.

40% OF THE ST/LDR INDICATED THAT THEY DID USE THEIR AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES.

18% OF THE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THAT THEY HAVE MADE OPERATIONAL CHANGES AS A RESULT OF THIS INCIDENT.