SONOMA COUNTY ACTIVE STATUS

Planned Need

Strike Team/Task Force/Single increment & Overhead Resources (SOG)

DESCRIPTION

The Active Status Keeping System is designed to minimize the need to individually contact each fire agency when the need arises to deploy Planned Need Strike Teams, Task Forces, Single-increments or overhead resources. Responsibility for maintaining current availability status within the Sonoma County Mutual Aid System is done in Active Status and is the responsibility of each agency and their qualified participants.

DEFINITIONS

- **Active Status Keeping System**—The current program developed to track the availability of personnel and resources, including Strike Team Leaders, Division Group Supervisors, Safety Officers and Trainees and other overhead positions for planned need assignments both in and out of Sonoma County.

- **Active Status Apparatus Deployment List**—The list found on the web site and used by REDCOM and the REDCOM Duty Officer to manage the availability and deployment Sonoma County Fire Agencies resources.

- **Active Status Overhead Deployment Lists (Tabs)**—These lists are found on the web site located as TABS at the bottom of the Strike Team Leader List and used by REDCOM and the REDCOM Duty Officer to manage and fill overhead requests.

* **Planned Need**—Any request for a Strike Team, Task Force, Single Resource or Overhead response to an incident that generally comes with a report time or operational period beyond the current one. Planned need requests can include in-county, neighboring counties, and/or Statewide responses.

- **Planned Need Availability**—Resources statused correctly are identified by REDCOM and the REDCOM duty officer every Monday morning at 0900 hours. By 1200 hrs REDCOM will send a group email identifying those agencies and individuals who are up for that week’s assignments. 1200 hrs Monday begins the assigned week.

Those assigned and dispatched shall:

1. Acknowledge REDCOM within 5 minutes of being paged for a deployment
2. Be at the designated rendezvous point within 2 hours of being paged for the deployment.

3. Overhead personnel shall be prepared for a 14-day minimum deployment

4. Companies shall be prepared for a 9-day minimum deployment

- **REDCOM Duty Officer**—Fire personnel approved and trained by the Operations Chief/Training Officers Group to oversee the deployment and movement of resources for Strike Team and overhead requests, and for large escalating incidents effecting Sonoma County resources.

- **Until Deployed Status**—Agencies with 24/7 staffing that have demonstrated the ability to staff and respond resources when requested may request to have their agency be placed in the UNTIL DEPLOYED status. This request shall be made to the Sonoma County Op Area Coordinator for approval. Those agencies approved are always statused “available” unless they remove themselves by making their status “Unavailable” in Active Status.

All other agencies wishing to be included are required to update their availability on the web site by 0900 every Monday morning.

**GUIDELINES**

A rotational list of agencies found on the Active-Status website provides the system with a list of agencies and resources available for responses in a given week. The list is designed to avoid drawing too heavily from any one zone or area within Sonoma County

1. Each agency is required to status themselves correctly. Those under the Until Deployed status shall update their status upon return from a deployment, signifying they are ready for another deployment.

2. Agencies correctly statused and up on the rotation will be identified in the Monday weekly page as one of the assigned resources for the week along with the up Strike Team Leaders

3. With the approval of the Sonoma County Cal EMA Operational Area Coordinator, an agency who has a proven record of consistent responses to Planned Need requests may maintain permanent "Until Deployed" status for their apparatus within the Active Status Keeping System.

4. Agencies who are not on the approved for “Until Deployed” status list shall not status themselves as available for more than one week at a time or
longer than the following Monday morning 0900 deadline.

5. All Overhead qualified personnel shall status themselves by providing their contact number on the appropriate list. The list will be sorted and updated as to each individual’s last assignment. The list shall be maintained and updated by the REDCOM Duty Officer.

6. Any agency or individual who are statused “Available” but then are unable to supply the resource and/or personnel, except when committed to local emergency incidents, shall update their status to “Unavailable” in Active Status.

7. All initial Planned Need requests will be dispatched based on the identified list established and paged out by REDCOM on Monday Morning. Additional requests will be filled based on agencies being correctly statused at the time the request is received at REDCOM.

8. Agencies will not be considered for planned need deployment unless they are accurately statused.

9. REDCOM will use the REDCOM Duty Officer notification system to update the status of incidents, requests and activations. However, there will generally be no additional phone calls or pre-alerts indicating a potential, anticipated or actual deployment.

PROCEDURES

1. General Status Keeping
   *Nothing within these guidelines prevents any agency, Strike Team Leader, Strike Team Leader(T) or Overhead personnel from maintaining status any time they determine it is appropriate. However those agencies and personnel statused available Monday by 0900 hours and identified in the weekly page will be the first deployed.
   
   • All agencies and qualified overhead personnel who are interested in responding to Planned Need requests should maintain a heightened situational awareness regarding activities in the State and maintain their status in the Active Status Keeping System accordingly.

2. Weekly Status Keeping

   • Sunday morning prior to 1200 hours REDCOM will send out a message to ALL agencies to update their status in Active Status and who the Duty
Officer is for the upcoming week.

- Monday morning after 0900 hours the Duty Officer will update the Web site identifying which agencies and Strike Team Leaders will be up for the week. REDCOM will then be contacted and the list will then be sent out as a page by REDCOM to all agencies.

- Failure to maintain your agencies status accurately during this period will result in that agency being skipped for any deployments until they indicate in the Active Status System correctly that they are available.

- Agencies, Strike Team Leaders and Trainees who are not able to log on to the system for any reason may request that another agency or the Duty Officer update their status for them.

Upon receipt of a request for a Planned Need Strike Team, Task Force or Single Equipment Resource, REDCOM will “tone out” the resources that have indicated availability in the Active Status Keeping System on the Sonoma County Fire Chief’s Web Site.

- The Dispatch will include;
  - The Five Agencies assigned
  - The type of resource requested
  - The Strike Team Leaders identifier/or Name
  - The XSN #
  - The rendezvous location
  - The expected “by” time

- Each assigned agency is responsible for indicating their availability to respond within 5 minutes of being dispatched regardless of the established rendezvous time. If they fail to acknowledge the page within 5 minutes, the next available agency will be toned out for response.

- Strike Team Leaders and Trainee’s who are statused available by listing their contact information have 5 minutes to accept the assignment. If they fail to contact REDCOM after 5 minutes, the next available Strike Team Leader/Trainee will be contacted.

- Additional Planned Need requests will be filled by continuing down the Active Status list of available resources. The Duty Officer will be involved with the deployment of additional resources.
2. Maintaining Your Status

- The Active Status Keeping System can be managed by any member(s) of an agency authorized by their fire chief to do so. It is anticipated that overhead personnel will status themselves.

- To update Active Status go to the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Web Site at http://www.sonomacountyfirechiefs.org/
  - Select “Fire & Rescue Op Area, drop down to Active Status then down to the Active Status List of choice.
  - Select the list of choice to see current statuses. If you wish to update a status, select “Click here to edit” and sign in.
  - Once logged in, Select “Drive” which will take you to all lists
  - Select the list of choice and update your status.
  - When completed simply log out, your changes are automatically Saved.

3. Updating the Status Lists after deployments will be completed by a REDCOM Duty Officer