

California Mobilization Guide Amendment Chapter 24

24 - CALIFORNIA INCIDENT PRIORITIES

When California is involved in multiple incidents that are drawing resources, the cooperators will prepare a California Incident Priority List.

The Coordination Center will revise the list daily and provide it to NICC, the GACC's, involved cooperators, and Units with incidents. Priorities are negotiated with involved cooperators and incorporated into the Multiagency Coordinating Group (MAC) Incident Status Summary, ICS Form 209, and other sources.

CALIFORNIA INCIDENT PRIORITIES

(Includes USFS, CAL FIRE, BLM, NPS, and other wildland agencies)

JOINT CRITERIA USED TO DETERMINE PRIORITIES:

Threats and Potential for Current and Projected:

A. Life and Safety Threats (Public and Emergency Responders) (maximum score is 15)

Definition: Events which increase complexity, resulting in high potential for serious injury and/or death.

A.1 Evacuations	Rating
In Progress	5
Precautionary	3-4
Potential (48-72 hrs) or Completed	1-2
A.2 Road, Highway or Freeway Closures	
Major Highway or Freeway	4-5
State Routes or Improved Roadways	2-3
Potential for Closures 48-72 hrs	1
A.3 Extreme Fire Behavior, Weather Event, Natural or Human Caused Disasters	
Occurring or Predicted/Forecasted to Continue (24 hrs)	5
Predicted/Forecasted 24-72 hrs	3-4
Occurring but Predicted/Forecasted to Diminish	1-2

B. Property Threatened and/or High Damage (Next 48 hours) (maximum score is 15)

Definition: This category relates to potential for damage or actual impact to Communities or other high value investments that contribute to dwellings, commercial workplaces and critical infrastructure that supports human life, income or support to the general population. Threats under this category should not be listed unless there is significant potential to impact these elements and an eminent threat is recognized within a 48-hour timeframe.

B.1 Structures (residential, commercial, vacation or other)	Rating
200+	4-5
25-200	3-4
<25	1-2
B.2 Community Loss (within 48 hours)	
Potential for >75% Community Loss	5
Potential for 50-75% Community Loss	4
Potential for 25-50% Community Loss	3
Potential for <25% Community Loss	1-2
B.3 Infrastructure – National, State, Local (Power Lines, Energy Corridors, Domestic Water Systems, Communications Grid, Railroads, etc...)	
Systems shutdown and/or damaged	5
Potential threat 24-48 hrs	3-4
Potential threat 72+ hrs	1-2

C. Resource Issues and Potential for Loss (maximum total points is 20)

Definition: Resource concerns can vary widely depending on place and type of resource considered. Each of the below items must be carefully considered in its relation to both local/regional or national significance and may have economic impact at local or regional levels. Resources that are not commercial should be considered in the Natural Resources category rather than in both Natural and Commercial Resources. Consider timeframes and proximity when rating.

Rating

C.1 Historical and Significant Cultural Resources

1-5

C.2 Natural Resources (T&E Species Hab., Watershed, Forest Health, Soils, Airshed, etc)

1-5

C.3 Commercial Resources (Grazing, Timber, Agricultural Crops, etc.)

1-5

C.4 Potential for Economic Impact (Tourism i.e. fishing, hunting; loss of jobs, etc.)

1-5

D. Incident Complexity/Duration (maximum total points is 10)

Definition: Multiple incidents or complex of incidents versus a single incident have a way of making prioritization setting difficult. However, it is common enough that it needs to be included in the process.

Attention needs to be given to travel distances, support to incident personnel and logistical challenges not always associated with a single incident.

Timely containment implies that if all critical resource needs from the 209 were met, then containment objectives would be met within the specified timeframes indicated. Containment at an early date is beneficial during high activity periods and would result in earlier resource reassignment opportunities to supplement Initial Attack or to assist other incidents.

D.1 Complex vs. Single Incident

Rating

5+ incidents or >25,000 acres	4-5
3-4 incidents or 5-25,000 acres	2-3
1-2 incidents or <5,000 acres	1

D.2 Potential for Timely Containment and/or Mitigation

	Rating
<72 hrs	5
3-7 days	4
8-14 days	3
15-21 days	2
Unknown or long term management	1

NOTE: Initial attack, new starts, and life threatening situations have overall priority, overriding the priorities listed above.