

BULLETIN

NO: 19-087  
DATE: June 3, 2019  
TO: All Personnel  
FROM: Chris Webber, Assistant Fire Chief, Emergency Operations  
SUBJECT: Initiation of Mutual Threat Zone Dispatching and Operation

On Monday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 (C Division) at 0800 HRS, the Emergency Command & Data Center (ECDC) will operationalize a Mutual Threat Zone (MTZ) plan and agreement between San Diego Fire-Rescue, Rancho Santa Fe Fire, Poway Fire, Escondido Fire and CalFIRE. Implementation will be realized through the CAD assignment of responding units to pre-designated VHF command and tactical frequencies as well as communication with the Monte Vista Interagency Command Center ("Monte Vista") as the designated ordering point for the incident on all vegetation fires within the designated mutual threat zone.

The mutual threat zone area is generally within Battalions 5 and 7, extending from Fairbanks Ranch, past Lake Hodges to the East side of San Pasqual Valley. All participating agencies benefit from this agreement by having pre-established procedures for incidents occurring within this area as well as allowing all responding agencies to communicate from a unified communications plan at the time of dispatch.

When a vegetation incident occurs within the MTZ, units will be dispatched by ECDC. Channel assignments will be selected from pre-designated VHF channels proven to have best performance within the MTZ area. From the time of dispatch until formally released by Monte Vista, all responding units will communicate size ups, updates, resource orders and needs directly to Monte Vista ECC using these VHF channels.

The only time units are to deviate from this is when it is so early in the incident there is no VHF frequency assigned yet or there is an apparent communication failure using VHF. Should this occur **10K** may be used to communicate with Monte Vista until able to return to the assigned VHF frequencies.

MTZ training has been provided to all battalion chiefs and will be completed for all emergency operations personnel before the end of June 2019. Please ensure you are familiar with these procedures.

Route any questions through your chain of command.