

TITLE OPERATIONS MANUAL	STANDARD INSTRUCTION 02		DEPARTMENT FIRE
SUBJECT FIRE SUPPRESSION: FIRESTORM AUGMENTATION SUPPORT TEAMS	SECTION 39	PAGE 1 of 3	EFFECTIVE DATE 05/27/2014

I. PURPOSE

In the event fire storm conditions cause the depletion of a significant portion of frontline and reserve apparatus to suppression activities, Firestorm Augmentation Support Teams (FAST) may be placed into service to increase fire response surge capabilities. Experience from previous fire storms has shown that significant numbers of structures can be successfully defended utilizing structure triage and bump and run tactics. Unfortunately, in many cases these successfully defended structures are lost to fire later in the incident. This is mostly due to fencing materials, ornamental vegetation, debris and other combustibles which continue to burn. The strong winds, which normally accompany a fire storm, cause embers from these burning materials to migrate to previously saved structures, causing additional fire loss.

II. SCOPE

This policy shall apply to all SDFD Personnel.

III. AUTHORITY

The Fire Chief authorizes the information within this policy.

IV. POLICY

A. FAST Configuration

1. FAST will be staffed as a four-person unit to augment a Strike Team or Task Force capabilities
2. Crew selection will be based on immediate need and personnel availability at the point of deployment
 - a. Whenever possible FAST units will be staffed identical to SDFD engine companies with the following configuration:
 - 1) One Captain
 - 2) One Engineer
 - 3) One Firefighter Paramedic
 - 4) One Firefighter
 - b. At no time will a FAST unit be deployed without a Captain
3. All FAST team members will be equipped with PPE appropriate for the incident type

B. FAST Equipment

1. Each FAST will be equipped with the following:
 - a. One City issued vehicle (utility-type, pick-up truck, sedan, or other with enclosed seating)
 - b. One fully outfitted Surge Box (see Appendix A)

TITLE OPERATIONS MANUAL	STANDARD INSTRUCTION 02		DEPARTMENT FIRE
SUBJECT FIRE SUPPRESSION: FIRESTORM AUGMENTATION SUPPORT TEAMS	SECTION 39	PAGE 2 of 3	EFFECTIVE DATE 05/27/2014

- c. Two portable radios with spare batteries (800 MHz /VHF or both, depending on incident Communication Plan)
- d. Round nose shovel
- e. SDFD/Thomas Brothers map book
- f. Pager and/or cell phone may be provided, if available

C. Deployment Procedures

Up to 11 Firestorm Augmentation Support Teams can be staffed in anticipation of, or in response to a large scale fire event.

1. Staffing of FAST will be coordinated through the Staffing Desk or the ICS Resource Unit Leader, if established.
2. FAST vehicles and surge kits will be provided through SDFD Logistics.
3. FAST vehicles may also be provided through Heavy/Light Fleet Services or other approved methods.
4. Firestorm Augmentation Support Teams may also be deployed for other large scale, all-risk emergencies (e.g. earthquake, tsunami, etc) in order to increase response surge capability.

D. Operating Procedures

Firestorm Augmentation Support Teams shall function within the established ICS structure.

1. Prior to assignment, FAST should receive a pre-deployment briefing from the assigned Division or Group Supervisor, including accountability and communications procedures.
2. FAST may be utilized to augment staffing for Type I and Type III strike teams or task forces.
3. FAST may also be utilized in a task force configuration with a Task Force Leader.
4. FAST may be utilized to perform the following functions:
 - a. Augment an engine company to provide stand-alone capability to overhaul areas affected by fire, as assigned
 - b. Deploy with strike teams to increase firefighting capabilities and staffing, as assigned
 - c. Secure utilities in affected areas when, and if safe to do so.
 - d. Interface with citizens in fire struck areas.
 - e. Work within the ICS to provide field intelligence for the IC, Planning Section, Division or Group Supervisor, Strike Team or Task Force Leader.
 - f. Provide for incident support as directed by Division or Group Supervisor or Strike Team or Task Force Leader.
5. Each Firestorm Augmentation Support Team shall document all activities, utilizing ICS Form 214, for each operational period.

TITLE OPERATIONS MANUAL	STANDARD INSTRUCTION 01	DEPARTMENT FIRE-RESCUE	
SUBJECT FIRE SUPPRESSION: FIRESTORM AUGMENTATION SUPPORT TEAMS	SECTION 38	PAGE 3 of 3	EFFECTIVE DATE 05/27/2014

Quick Check Inventory



Unit: Surge Box

Date: October 2008

Item in: Surge Box

- (1) 2 1/2" to 1 1/2" Reducer
- (1) 1 1/2" to Garden Hose Adapter
- (1) Garden Hose to 1 1/2" Increaser
- (1) Garden Hose Tee
- (4) 1 1/2" x 100' Hose
- (2) Collapsible Garden Hose 100'
- (1) 1 1/2" K Nozzle
- (1) Axe
- (1) Bolt Cutter
- (1) Pliers
- (1) 1 1/2" Foam canister W/Nozzle
- (3) Class A Foam Cartridges
- (2) Wildland Goggles
- (4) Smoke Masks
- (1) Wildland Wash Wipes
- (1) First Aid Kit
- (1) Hydrant Spanner
- (1) Document Kit
- (1) Flash Light
- (2) Magnetic Signs

Additional items for FAST to secure prior to deployment:

- 1 Round Nose Shovel (Store 42)
- 2 Portable Radios with spare batteries
- 1 Map Book
- Pager and/or cell phone (if available)

