



# Solano County Fire Chiefs Association GUIDELINES

Guideline Name:	Vegetation Response – Communication
Number:	1-2
Revision / Reviewed Date:	April 6, 2023

## Introduction

Vegetation fires require coordinating resources from both the local and state levels. This coordination requires a pre-established communication plan that uses 800 Mhz and VHF radio systems and patching channels to ensure interoperability between all allied agencies.

## Policy

This policy shall apply to all Solano County Fire Resources

### **A. Dispatch Channel**

- 1) Initial dispatch, the establishment of IC, size-up, communications between IC and PSAP, and responding resources.
  - a) Main dispatch channel for the incident agency

### **B. Tactical**

- 1) Tactical talk groups are used for:
  - a) Providing tactical assignments to assigned resources.
  - b) Ongoing tactical communication between the IC and established Branches, Divisions, and assigned resources
- 2) Typical tactical talk group assignments include:
  - a) Agency-specific TAC channels
- 3) If any CAL FIRE resources are requested because of an impact on LRA/SRA or MTZ areas, the IC will move all incident resources to a CAL FIRE assigned tactical channel as soon as possible.
  - a) Typical CAL FIRE tactical channel assignments for Solano County incidents include:
    - i. V-FIRE 22

## **2. Communication Expectations of All Assigned Resources**

- A. All resources must monitor and communicate on the assigned Command and tactical channels.



# Solano County Fire Chiefs Association GUIDELINES

Guideline Name:	Vegetation Response – Communication
Number:	21
Revision / Reviewed Date:	April 6, 2023

### 3. Communications Expectations with Aviation Resources

A. During incidents with aviation resources, anyone assigned to the incident must monitor and be able to communicate on the following frequencies:

- 1) Assigned Tactical Channel
- 2) CDF A/G 2
- 3) AIRGUARD
  - a) Restricted to the following use:
    - i. Air-to-Air emergency contact and coordination.
    - ii. Ground-to-Air emergency contact.
    - iii. The initial call, recall, and re-direction of aircraft when no other contact frequency is available.

### 4. IC Responsibilities and Expectations with a threat to SRA/LRA or MTZ.

A. Request a Cal Fire Response through the incident PSAP.

- 1) The request should specify with or without aircraft
- 2) For incidents occurring outside Solano County dispatch oversight, the local PSAP will request approval from Solano to patch SECA 3 (or 2) to the MAIN command channel,
  - a) *Once approved and completed, the local PSAP will notify LNU Dispatch that the command channel is SECA “#.”*
    - i. *The SECA patch will allow real-time situational awareness for the responding CAL FIRE resources.*

B. The IC shall communicate with LNU Dispatch (St. Helena) when incidents occur in the SRA or MTZ, such as incident size up, updates, etc.

- 1) If additional resources are requested through St. Helena, the IC shall notify the current incident PSAP of any requests made through CAL FIRE.
- 2) IC will communicate incident updates to St. Helena (LNU East) until a CAL FIRE Chief Officer has arrived and assumed Command or unification has occurred.
- 3) Once unification has occurred, a single point for orders shall be identified.



# Solano County Fire Chiefs Association GUIDELINES

Guideline Name:	Vegetation Response – Communication
Number:	21
Revision / Reviewed Date:	April 6, 2023

## CAL FIRE Communications Plan for Solano County

- **Command Channel:**
  - LNU East (*Tone Specific*) – Saint Helena
    - *Extended Incident* - CDF Command 2, 4, or 6
  - Local Agency Command
    - Communication between the PSAP and Unified Command.
- **Tactical Channel:**
  - V-Fire 22:
    - *Additional CDF Tac Channels (As needed)*
  - **CALCORD**
    - *Pre-assigned: should be used for an IWI and only for the duration of the emergency*
- **Air/Ground:**
  - CDF A/G 2 (primary) or assigned CDF A/G 1 or CDF A/G 3 if CDF A/G 2 is already in use.
    - Monitoring of assigned CDF A/G required by all personnel working on the incident.

## Recommended Wildland Zone for all Solano County Agencies

1. XSO FD1 or XSO Main
2. LNU EAST (Tone Options)
3. SECA 2
4. SECA 3
5. V-Fire 22
6. V-Fire 23
7. V-Fire 24
8. V-Fire 25
9. V-Fire 26
10. CDF TAC 4
11. Air / Ground 1
12. Air / Ground 2
13. Calcord
14. Airguard (Last Channel on dial)