



NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY

STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
Joe Lombardo, *Governor*
James A. Settlemeyer, *Director*
Kacey KC, *State Forester/Firewarden*

Date: 9/25/24

To: Sharon Luce, Acting Administrator and Brett Compston, Incoming Administrator

From: Kacey KC, State Forester, Nevada Division of Forestry

Re: Davis Fire Policy Group Executive Summary

Ms. Luce and Mr. Compston,

In response to your 9/24/24 request for information on how well agencies worked together, both internally and with each other to complete the Executive Summary for the NVOC Policy Group, we have the following to offer:

- What worked well in collaborating with other State Agencies.
 - NDF and Nevada National Guard (NNG) has achieved exemplary coordination in readiness and throughout the response, which provided rapid activation for the hand crew and rotor-wing assets that contributed to the effective and significant contributions to suppressing the Davis Fire. This was enabled by the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that is maintained between NDF and NNG.
 - During the activation of Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) successfully facilitated multiple State of Nevada support functions to contribute necessary assets, communication and coordination, including but not limited to:
 - Volunteers to help gather 17 miles of firehose and provide incident camp support
 - Mobilize Type 1 Engine strike team to provide local All Hazard backfill capacity
 - Liaison for local Emergency Managers and Operations Center actions
 - Information flow between NDF and NDEM was fluid and responsive ensuring unified support to all levels of State and Local governments.
 - NDF's State to State Agreement with CALFire for suppression asset sharing resulted in the first-ever deployment of CalFire's contracted night-flying Chinook for suppression in Nevada. The agreement provided multiple strike teams of CalFire and CalOES engines and CalFire Airtankers to respond and engage.

- NDF, through the State Fire Fuels Master Service Agreement, was able to request and receive two Super Scooper aircraft from Bridger Aerospace to join two additional federally contracted Super Scoopers to fight the Davis Fire by dropping over 200,000 gallons of water in critical locations prior to the Particularly Dangerous Situation declared by the National Weather Service.
- NDF staff are working with the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team to implement emergency stabilization and rehabilitation measures in the Davis Fire burn scar seamlessly across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Any challenges or issues you faced as a Policy Group Member.
 - The Las Vegas Type 1 Engine strike team experienced complications with logistics, including hotel room procurement.
 - Public communications among all parties (NDF, NDCNR, NDEM, DPS, USFS, Truckee Meadows Fire and Rescue, Incident Management Team, and varying levels of State Government) posed a challenge because the messaging was not efficiently distributed from the Incident Team PIO to a Lead State PIO before disseminating through each agency. Having so many individual agencies requesting timely updates independently caused increased workload on the Incident Management Team, resulting in them having to staff up to greater than normal levels.
- Suggestions to improve coordination at the policy level for future incidents.
 - Resources mobilized to the area to cover local station duties must either be self-sufficient for all logistical needs for at least 72 hours or be assigned a State of Nevada liaison with procurement authority to ensure that their logistical needs are met.
 - For State Declared Emergencies and other large, highly impactful events, NDEM may want to activate ESF-2 to create a lead public information officer role for the State and provide a single point of communications. This may allow incident communications to be distributed efficiently from the incident personal through the ESF to the State Leadership, State Agencies and their constituents.
 - Establish functional communication methods for the NVOC Policy Group to ensure that all members remain informed and able to share information as needed, in support of NDEM's recommendation.