

2019

**Emergency Response Management Committee
(ERMaC)**

2019 Accomplishments Report

Office of the Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency

California Air Resources Board

Department of Pesticide Regulation

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

State Water Resources Control Board

Preface

On behalf of all California Environmental Protection Agency's (CalEPA) Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC) members and participants, I am pleased to submit the Committee's Annual Accomplishments Report for 2019.

This 11th annual report highlights selected emergency planning, preparedness, response, and recovery activities of CalEPA and the six CalEPA Boards, Departments, and Offices (BDOs) from this year. This report highlights and describes selected emergency incidents, such as hazardous chemical releases, fires, and oil spills. It also summarizes major training events, exercises, and projects in which ERMaC members participated over the year. It offers a great cross-sectional view of the important role environmental protection staff play in preparing for and responding to large-scale emergencies and disasters.

Successful emergency management relies on building working relationships among many subject matter experts with our local, state, federal, and tribal partners along with non-governmental organizations. Throughout 2019, the ERMaC team continued to build on its already admirable collaborations with many supporting agencies to mitigate environmental incidents and disasters. The incidents and events presented here exemplify the high degree of cooperation and interaction we have achieved in the response and recovery actions undertaken by each BDO and by CalEPA collectively.

I welcome the next decade of growing proficiency and collaboration in CalEPA's emergency management program!

Jason Boetzer

ERMaC Chair,
Assistant Secretary for Local Programs and Emergency Response

*This document was compiled and edited by Dr. Karen Riveles and Jacky Leng, OEHHA.

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I. Introduction

Mission Statement:

The Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC) manages and reduces environmental health consequences of emergency events through effective, coordinated, agency-wide preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts.

The California Environmental Protection Agency's (CalEPA) ERMaC coordinates preparedness for responses to environmental emergencies in California under assigned statutory authorities. ERMaC is composed of appointed representatives and alternates from each CalEPA Board, Department and Office (BDO), and is chaired by the Assistant Secretary for Local Program Coordination and Emergency Response appointed by the Secretary. ERMaC members can activate and direct resources and personnel to affect timely and appropriate response to disasters and large-scale emergencies.

ERMaC is responsible for emergency planning and training, and coordinating all CalEPA entities in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery actions. It serves as the forum for developing and maintaining the CalEPA collective Administrative Orders and Emergency Response Plans.

ERMaC is also responsible for maintaining and executing the California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Support Function Annex 10 (ESF-10). The ESF-10 Annex is a planning-specific addendum to the California State Emergency Plan (SEP). The SEP establishes CalEPA as the State's lead agency for the organizational scope and coordination of statewide emergency management in an environmental disaster involving a large-scale oil or hazardous materials release. The ESF-10 Annex provides for a coordinated response from agencies and governmental entities with jurisdiction to perform all phases of emergency management in the response to and recovery from an oil or hazardous materials release.

CalEPA responses conform to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) for emergency response. CalEPA operates as a state agency with specific jurisdiction under the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), coordinated by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).

II. Incident Response and Recovery Actions

Throughout 2019, ERMaC coordinated with supporting agencies to mitigate environmental incidents and disasters. The incidents presented below highlight the response and recovery actions undertaken by CalEPA and its BDOs during incidents and disasters, as well as the collective efforts of ERMaC and its member agencies.

A. Selected Responses

Russian River Flooding (February 2019)

At the end of February an atmospheric river turned Guerneville into a virtual island, leaving the tiny Sonoma County community surrounded by water after the Russian River overflowed its banks. The river peaked at about 45 feet or about 13 feet above flood stage; levels not seen since 1995. As a result of the flooding, close to 2500 properties were impacted along the Russian River. Sonoma County requested assistance, via Cal OES, from the Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC) Emergency Response Program to assess and removal household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronic waste (e-waste) from several staging areas established by Sonoma County.



Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste located at a staging area in Guerneville. Collected as part of response to Sonoma County Floods.

They also asked DTSC to conduct curbside sweeps of neighborhoods impacted by the flooding. DTSC also assisted Sonoma County with two HHW and e-waste collection events on March 9th and 23rd. DTSC completed the response action in three weeks.



DTSC Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Crews assessing individual properties impacted by the Sonoma County Floods for HHW and E-Waste.

Ridgecrest Earthquake (July 2019)

On July 4, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake hit the town of Ridgecrest followed by a 7.1 magnitude earthquake on July 5. Cal OES activated the State Operations Center (SOC) at the highest level. Per the request of Cal OES, CalEPA staffed the SOC representing CalEPA and ESF-10 as part of the SOC Operations Section.

These efforts focused on monitoring, supporting and reporting on the damaged water systems serving Trona, Searless Valley, and Pioneer Point. CalEPA also coordinated with the local California Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs) to identify impacts to California Accidental Release Program (CalARP) facilities, hazardous materials storage facilities and underground storage tanks.



Source: <https://earthsky.org/earth/southern-california-earthquakes-july-2019>

The State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (SWRCB) and (RWQCB) (collectively the Water Boards) also participated in the SOC, Operational Area (OA), and the San Bernardino County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as agency representatives providing technical expertise and support, collecting situation status updates and reporting up the chain of command, feeding information to the SOC. The Water Boards performed site visits and provided support to numerous facilities including drinking water infrastructure, Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTF), Sanitary Sewer Collection Systems (SSCS), industrial and land disposal sites. The Water Boards also assisted with providing Boil Water Notices (BWNs) and crucial guidance to impacted communities, as well as identifying options for consideration during response and recovery efforts. These efforts were coordinated with numerous partners and stakeholders during the events including California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN) and California Utilities Emergency Association (CUEA).

Pelican Bay State Prison Suspicious Package (July 2019)

On July 23, an envelope containing a suspicious substance arrived at the Pelican Bay State Prison. The suspicious substance was found during the prison's mail screening process. The California National Guard (CNG) Civil Support Team (CST) provided field sampling. Samples were collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The substance was tested positive for ricin based on a preliminary presumptive test and sent to a laboratory for further analysis. One hundred and sixteen employees who worked in the administration building were placed on a precautionary quarantine. CalEPA, DTSC and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) assisted the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), who was the lead agency, in a multiagency workgroup to assist in developing response, decontamination, and recovery plans. However, based on the available health and physical evidence, this incident did not involve refined ricin, but indicated the possible presence of the raw material precursor. No evidence of ricin exposure symptoms were present in any of the employees at the facility, including three employees that handled the suspected material.

Contamination of California Senate Chamber (September 2019)

On September 13, a protestor from the visitors' gallery of the California Senate Chamber threw red liquid onto several California senators causing a delay for several hours on the final day of the legislative session in 2019. Cal OES initiated a phone call that included CalEPA, OEHHA and CDPH to assist in identifying a contractor that could perform cleanup. Safety precautions were taken in hiring a company certified in hazard cleanup to sanitize the chamber. Lab tests confirmed that the substance thrown from the Senate gallery was human blood. The blood tested negative for any blood-borne pathogens or infections.

Isleton Abandoned Vessel Removal Action (December 2019)

On Wednesday December 4, DTSC conducted a removal action of hazardous waste on three abandoned vessels (one barge and two tugboats) located along 7-Mile Slough in Isleton, California. The Sacramento County Sheriff's Marine Enforcement Detail requested assistance from DTSC to access and remove hazardous waste, located on the three vessels that posed a risk of contamination to the waters and residents along 7-Mile Slough. On November 20th, 2019, DTSC and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department conducted an assessment of the vessels and determined the hazardous waste onboard the vessels fell into three categories: 1) "loose" hazmat consisting of cylinders, batteries, flammable liquids, etc. that could be easily removed; 2) potential asbestos containing materials on pipes on other surfaces; 3) fuels, hydraulic fluid, oil in tanks and piping.

The removal action conducted by DTSC on December 4, addressed the "loose" hazmat. The three abandoned vessels were located near the 5 Brothers Marina (DBA Brothers Island Marina) at 1200 W. Brannan Island Road, Isleton, California. The vessels were not docked, but located in open waters. The Sacramento County Sheriff's Department provided and operated a boat to ferry the hazardous waste from the barge and the two tugboats to a nearby dock at the 5 Brothers Marina.

Mercury Poisoning with Contaminated Face Cream (December 2019)

DTSC conducted an assessment of a single-family residence in Sacramento County when it was discovered the owner had used a face cream contaminated with mercury. Based on initial screening it was determined that the home was not contaminated with mercury above the established cleanup level for residential properties. In December, DTSC was contacted by Tulare County Environmental Health to assist with assessing an apartment in Oroshi, California where the occupant was actively placing mercury in face cream and then selling the product. Based on assessments conducted by DTSC, the apartment required remediation to reduce levels below the established cleanup levels for residential properties.

Oil Spill Response and Seafood Safety (January – December 2019)

OEHHA and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) coordinated to assess seafood safety following marine and freshwater oil spills. CDFW must close access to fishing, unless OEHHA determines that there is not likely to be a public health threat from consumption of aquatic life impacted by the spill. Fisheries closed for more than 48 hours require expedited testing of seafood and a risk assessment conducted by OEHHA before the fishery can be re-opened.

In 2019, OEHHA was notified of 17 oil spills or potential oil spills. OEHHA worked with CDFW to compile and evaluate information on the spills. For nine spills, OEHHA found that there was not likely to be a public health threat. CDFW did not close fisheries in those cases. No action was required for the remaining eight spills reported to OEHHA because the spilled product was contained, or the spill took place in areas where fishing or aquaculture does not take place.

OEHHA also participated with OSPR in 10 oil spill drills. A recommendation for a fishery closure was issued in six of the drills. The drill scenarios spanned a broad range of spill volumes and geographical/hydrological conditions. For example, one scenario included a spill of 60,000 barrels of crude oil off the Farallon Islands, while another scenario involved a spill of 5,000 barrels of diesel into the Mokelumne River. Fishery closure procedures are exercised in drills on a regular basis.

Commercial Fisheries Closures: Domoic Acid (January – December 2019)

OEHHA, in consultation with CDPH, recommends closures, delay of openings, and re-openings of fisheries based on high levels of toxic substances, including marine biotoxins such as domoic acid, under Fish and Game Code Section 5523 (see [OEHHA's page on Domoic Acid](https://oehha.ca.gov/fish/general-info/domoic-acid-marine-biotoxin-fish-and-shellfish); <https://oehha.ca.gov/fish/general-info/domoic-acid-marine-biotoxin-fish-and-shellfish>). Recommendations to close or delay the opening of fisheries are made when levels of domoic acid meet or exceed the federal action level for this toxin. In 2019, OEHHA, in consultation with the CDPH, made recommendations (Table 1) to CDFW for rock crab and Dungeness crab fisheries, based on the results of domoic acid testing by the CDPH laboratories. Two closures are ongoing since 2016. No actions were recommended in 2019 for spiny lobster.

Table 1 OEHHA Recommendations for Domoic Acid-related Delays, Closures, and Openings.

Date	Species	Action	Location
Jan 7, 2019	Dungeness Crab	Delayed Opening of Commercial Fishery	from Patrick's Point (41° 8.00' N. latitude) north to the California/Oregon border (Humboldt and Del Norte counties)
Jan 18, 2019	Dungeness Crab	Open Commercial Fishery Open Recreational Fishery (delayed opening recommendation from October 2018)	from Patrick's Point (41° 8.00' N. latitude) north to the California/Oregon border (Humboldt and Del Norte counties)
May 23, 2019	Rock Crab	Open Commercial Fishery	near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County (40° 30.00' N.

			Lat.) north to the Humboldt Bay entrance at the north jetty (40° 46.15' N. Lat.) including all ocean waters of Humboldt Bay
Ongoing	Rock Crab	Close Commercial Fishery (ongoing since November 2016)	1) the Mendocino/Humboldt County line (40° 00.00' N. Lat.) to 40° 30.00' N. Lat. (near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County) and 2) the north jetty of the Humboldt Bay entrance (40° 46.15' N. Lat.) to the California/Oregon border (42° 00.00' N. Lat.)
Ongoing	Razor Clams	Close Recreational Fishery (ongoing since April 2016)	Del Norte and Humboldt County Beaches

Freshwater Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) (January – December 2019)

The Water Boards worked with state and local entities to identify and respond to reported HABs throughout the state for the entire year. HABs dominated by cyanobacteria that can produce cyanotoxins pose the greatest risk to human and animal health. HABs can impair beneficial uses of water pertaining to fishing, drinking, aquatic life, and water contact recreation. Blooms occur from high elevation lakes in the Sierra Nevada Mountains down to coastal estuaries where the cyanotoxins are exported into the marine environment.

The Water Boards leads a multi-agency incident response task force for HABs, which are voluntarily reported on the [Online Bloom Reporting System](#). The volume of submitted reports tracked from 2016-2019 (as shown in the table below) increased by 26% in 2019. The Water Boards supports state and local entities during the response investigations where they assist with and provide appropriate recommendations for [public health advisories](#). Incident response results and public health advisories are displayed on a map and data dashboard at the [CA HABs Portal](#).

Table 2 Voluntary bloom reports submitted (2016-2019).

Number of voluntary reports submitted to the online bloom reporting tool from 2016-2019.				
	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total reports	91	181	190	241

The interagency HAB-related Illness Workgroup investigates and tracks potential HAB-related illnesses in [humans](#) and [animals](#) throughout California, and includes staff from OEHHA, the Water Boards, CDPH, and CDFW. Since 2018, CDPH has reported 41 HAB-related cases from California to the CDC's [One Health Harmful Algal Bloom System](#) (OHHABS). A summary of HAB-related illness by year and type of organism impacted is provided in Table 3 below. The map below (Figure 1) displays the counties in which HAB-related illnesses from California (reported to OHHABS) have occurred for 2019. Illnesses are grouped by human only, human and animal (domestic or wild), or animal only.

Table 3 HAB-related illness reported to CDC's OHHABS by category for 2018 & 2019.

	2018	2019	Total to date (2018 & 2019)
Dog	4	5	9
Livestock	0	0	0
Wildlife	3	2	5
Fish	4	8	12
Human	8	7	15
TOTAL	19	22	41

Figure 1 Counties in which HAB-related illness were reported for calendar year 2019.



Map of counties in 2019 where freshwater HABs illness incidents were reported to the CDC One Health HAB System by CA Dep. of Public Health staff. (https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/resources/human_health.html#ohhabs)

B. Fire Response and Recovery

1. Fire Recovery from 2018 Fires

Camp Fire: Butte County (January – December 2019)

The Camp Fire destroyed over 18,800 structures and impacted over 13,300 parcels. The City of Paradise and the small community of Concow lost 95% of their buildings. During the response and recovery efforts, CalEPA staffed the State Operations Center in Rancho Cordova representing CalEPA and ESF-10 as part of the SOC Operations Section, and the Area Field Office in Oroville supporting the multiagency Debris Task Force. In addition, Water Boards and OEHHA provided staff to the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Rancho Cordova for the Water Systems Task Force.

DTSC, in conjunction with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), began the Phase 1 portion of the response in early December assessing and removing household hazardous waste and asbestos from residential, commercial, and public buildings impacted by the fire. By the first week of February DTSC and US EPA crews had assessed over 13,100 parcels. US EPA demobilized its operations by the end of January 2019, but DTSC-led Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Crews continued to conduct assessments periodically in Paradise and the surrounding areas when additional structures



were discovered. DTSC HazMat Crews also continued to support the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) during the Phase 2 Debris Removal operations when additional HHW was discovered. The Phase 2 portion of the debris removal was completed in early 2020, thus ending DTSC involvement as well.

DTSC HazMat Crews conducting Phase 1 Assessments in the Camp Fire.

On August 19, 2019 DTSC HazMat Crews began removing debris from 15 commercial properties destroyed in the Camp Fire in November 2018. Due to elevated levels of lead and cadmium in the commercial debris, CalRecycle requested DTSC assistance with removing the contaminated debris. Typically, debris associated with wildfire cleanups is transported by CalRecycle to a Class 2 or Class 3 landfill. The elevated concentrations of lead and cadmium from the commercial properties required that the debris be transported and disposed of at a Class 1 hazardous waste landfill. The debris removal operation was completed on September 13, 2019. DTSC HazMat Crews remained onsite in Butte County until September 27, 2019 removing mercury-contaminated debris from five residential properties.



DTSC HazMat Crews remove lead and cadmium contaminated debris from commercial properties in Paradise.



DTSC HazMat Crews remove mercury-contaminated debris from a property in Paradise.

During the Phase 2 portion of the response, Cal OES and local officials coordinated with CalRecycle to execute contracts and conduct fire-related debris removal from properties at no out-of-pocket costs to homeowners. The voluntary program covered asbestos testing and removal; site assessments and documentation; removal of all burned debris, foundations, ash, and contaminated soil; air monitoring and dust control; soil sampling; soil re-scraping (as needed); erosion control installation; and final inspection on 10,827 properties in total. CalRecycle completed Phase 2 debris removal operations by September 30, 2019.

CalRecycle entered into contracts with: Tetra Tech, Inc.; Environmental Consultants + Contractors Inc. (ECC); SPSG Partners (a Joint Venture between Sukut Construction, LLC, Pacific States Environmental Contractors, Inc., and Goodfellow Bros, LLC.); and Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. to remove fire related debris from the Camp Fire. Approximately 3.6 million tons of debris were removed from 11,000 properties with a projected cost of \$1.3 billion.

The California Air Resource Board (CARB) assisted the Camp Fire debris removal operations by providing air monitoring equipment and conducting air monitoring at the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility and debris handling sites to ensure activities were not affecting air quality. CARB also conducted monitoring campaigns in Sutter and Yuba counties along debris removal trucking routes over the course of the 12 to 18-month cleanup operation to help characterize air quality impacts from increased vehicular traffic.

OEHHA and the Water Boards were mission tasked by Cal OES to join the Water Systems Task Force. OEHHA and Water Boards worked closely with Cal OES, and local environmental and irrigation district officials to characterize and assess the extent of the damage to the drinking water systems. Subsequent activities included support for drinking water quality monitoring and decontamination of distribution systems for benzene and other contaminants, and public outreach on contamination issues.

OEHHA provided a short-term risk model on exposure to benzene in drinking water to the multiagency workgroup. In addition, OEHHA assisted with the Plumbing Subcommittee to develop recommendations for homeowners to test their drinking water.

The Water Boards participated in Cal OES coordination calls, water quality monitoring programs, media outreach, conferences, symposiums, multi-agency coordination, and served as agency liaisons at the Butte County EOC. Water Board's coordinated with impacted utilities to obtain equipment and services while maintaining situational awareness for all emergency personnel.

The Water Boards developed water quality response strategies and consulted in Best Management Practices (BMP) for water quality protective measures and deployments. This includes working with Cal OES and Butte County to develop

the 2019/2020 winter response strategy. Additionally, the Water Boards continue to lead and implement a surface water monitoring program of effected water bodies throughout the burn area.

Hill & Woolsey Fire - Southern California; (January – August, 2019)

The Woolsey/Hill Fires destroyed over 1,400 structures. During the response and recovery efforts, CalEPA staffed the State Operations Center and supported the multiagency Debris Task Force. DTSC, in conjunction with US EPA, began the Phase 1 portion of the response in early December assessing and removing household hazardous waste (HHW) and asbestos from residential, commercial, and public buildings impacted by the fire. By the first week of February DTSC and US EPA crews had assessed over 1,400 parcels. US EPA demobilized its operations the end of January, but DTSC-led HazMat Crews continued to conduct assessments periodically in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties and the surrounding areas when additional structures were discovered. DTSC HazMat Crews also continued to support Cal Recycle during the Phase 2 Debris Removal operations when additional HHW was discovered. The Phase 2 portion of the debris removal was completed in early 2020, thus ending DTSC involvement as well.



DTSC HazMat Crews conducting Phase 1 Assessments in the Woolsey/Hill Fires.

Water Boards assigned four Agency Representatives (AREPs) to participate in the multiagency Debris Task Force and 4 AREPS for the Watershed Task Force collaboration meetings. Staff provided technical expertise, identified resource requirements and took action to meet needs. The Water Boards' Emergency Management Program (EMP) worked with CalEPA in the ESF 10 position during 2019 State Operation Center (SOC) activations

CalRecycle entered into contracts with Arcadis and ECC to remove fire related debris from the Woolsey/Hill Fire. Approximately 420,000 tons of debris removed from 1,100 properties with a projected cost to be \$140 million.

Other State Agency Personnel (OSAP) Deployment and Training Program; (Months)

To fulfill a critical need for staff in planning and operation positions, statewide staff responded to mutual aid requests for Other State Agency Personnel (OSAP) to assist in the recovery of the Camp and Woolsey/Hill fires debris removal operations. In addition to the CalRecycle staff assigned to Phase II operations, CalEPA recruited, organized, trained, and deployed 41 staff from CalEPA's BDOs between January 2019 and November 2019. These staff resources included 28 SWRCB, 6 OEHHA, 3 California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR), 2 CARB employees, 2 DTSC and 2 CalEPA employees. Each deployment lasted for 30 days and staff were deployed on two to eight deployment cycles total, sometimes with only a few days break in between deployments.

2. Fire Response and Recovery from 2019 Fires

Milepost 97 Fire: Douglas County, Oregon; (July – August, 2019)

The Milepost 97 fire started on July 24, 2019 in Douglas County, Oregon, and burned 13,119 acres. CARB deployed two portable air quality monitors to the community of Hoopa on July 30, 2019. Two additional units were deployed to the community of Happy Camp on July 31, 2019, in the region after the wildfire season.

Springs Fire: Mono County; (July – October, 2019)

The Springs fire started on July 26, 2019, and burned 4,840 acres. CARB deployed one portable air quality monitor to the community of Crowley Lake on August 13, 2019. The monitor remained in place until September 18, 2019. Monitors deployed to the Springs fire reported predominately good to moderate air quality throughout the region with a brief period of air quality unhealthy for sensitive groups.

Walker Fire: Plumas County; (September – October, 2019)

The Walker fire started on September 4, 2019 and burned 54,608 acres. CARB deployed one portable air quality monitor to the community of Taylorsville on September 11, 2019. The instruments remained in place until November 5, 2019. Monitors in the region reported predominately good to moderate air quality with intermittent periods of unhealthy air quality.



CARB staff deployed a portable smoke monitor instrument to Taylorsville to measure particulate matter (PM) concentration from the Walker Fire

Lime Fire: Siskiyou County; (September 2019)

The Lime fire started September 7, 2019 and burned 1,872 acres. CARB deployed one portable air quality monitor to the community of Hornbrook on September 11, 2019. The instruments remained in place until the containment of the fire on September 20th, 2019. During the Lime fire, air quality in the region was predominately in the good to moderate AQI range

South Fire: Tehama County; (September – December, 2019)

The South fire started September 5, 2019 and burned 5,332 acres. CARB deployed one portable air quality monitor to the community of Hopland on September 8, 2019. The instrument was demobilized on October 2, 2019 due to improved air quality. The monitor deployed to Hopland experienced a brief period of very unhealthy air quality.

Briceburg Fire: Mariposa County; (October 2019)

The Briceburg fire started on October 6, 2019 and burned 5,563 acres. CARB deployed portable air quality monitors to the communities of Groveland, El Portal, Mariposa and Yosemite National Park on October 7, 2019 and October 8, 2019. Two additional monitors were deployed to Midpines and Coulterville on October 9, 2019. The instruments were demobilized on November 4, 2019. During the Briceburg fire, monitors deployed to communities in Mariposa County

and the Yosemite Valley reported periods of unhealthy to very unhealthy air quality.

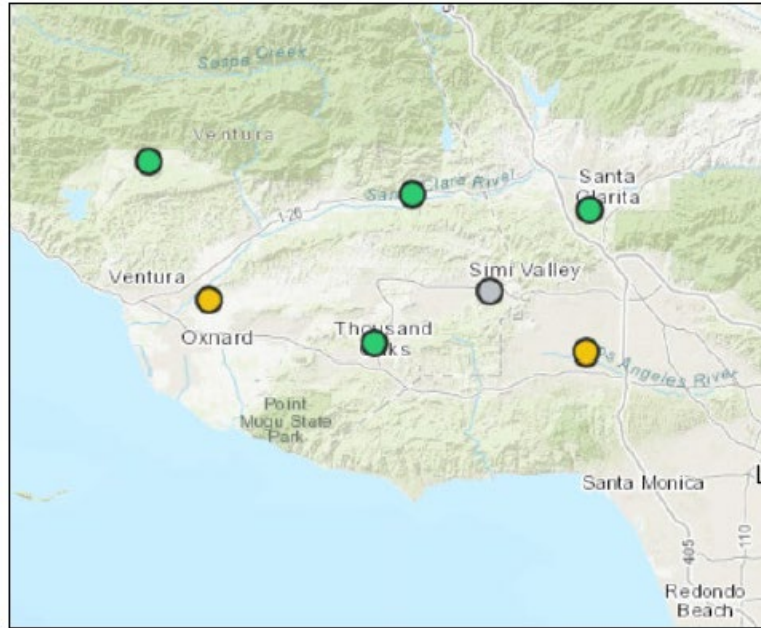


Portable equipment set up by CARB to support Mariposa County Air District during the Briceburg Fire.

October Southern California Fires: Multiple Southern California Counties; (October – November, 2019)

CalEPA staffed the SOC representing ESF-10 and coordinated with CalEPA ERMaC BDO staff representatives and local partners to monitor, support, provide technical expertise and collect situational status updates.

CARB supported local air districts with wildfire air monitoring in Southern California during October 2019. Upon request, CARB sent three portable air quality monitors to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) as a supplement to the five monitors deployed by the air district. Communities downwind from the fire reported air quality in the good to unhealthy range. CARB also monitored the situation in San Bernardino County for the Hill Fire and the 46 Fire but was not requested to deploy air monitors to these fires.



Data graphs depict Air Quality Index (AQI) being reported by air monitors in Southern California during fires in the fall of 2019.

Kincade Fire: Sonoma County; (October – November, 2019)

The Kincade fire started on October 23, 2019 and burned 77,758 acres. CARB deployed portable air quality monitors to the communities of Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Santa Rosa, St. Helena, Guerneville, Cordelia and Sonoma on October 25, 2019. A seventh monitor was deployed to the community of Middletown on October 30, 2019. The instruments remained in place until December 5, 2019. During the Kincade fire, multiple communities experienced extended periods of unhealthy to hazardous air quality.

CalEPA coordinated with DTSC, CalRecycle, Cal OES and Sonoma County Environmental Health on the Debris Task Force and Watershed Task Force. Staff met with representatives from Sonoma County to provide guidance on assessing and removing household hazardous waste, asbestos and debris from private and commercial properties impacted by the Kincade Fire. Two DTSC staff were also onsite with Sonoma County during the first week of the Phase 1 assessment activities to assist with any technical issues. Water Boards worked in collaboration with CalEPA to verify critical infrastructure vulnerabilities and meet any unmet needs.



CARB deployed several instruments throughout the region to monitor for the Kincade Fire

Table 4 CARB air monitoring support for 2019 fires

Incident	Start Date	Control Date	Jurisdiction
Milepost 97 Fire	July 24 th	August 26th	Douglas County, Oregon
Springs Fire	July 26th	October 24th	Great Basin Unified APCD ²
Walker Fire	September 4 th	October 24th	Northern Sierra County AQMD ³
Lime Fire	September 5 th	September 20th	Siskiyou County APCD
South Fire	September 5 th	December 2nd	Tehama County APCD
Briceburg Fire	October 6 th	October 24th	Mariposa County APCD
Southern California Fires ¹	October 21 st	November 6th	South Coast AQMD
Kincade Fire	October 24 th	November 20th	Sonoma County APCD

1 Multiple nearby smaller fires were managed by the US Forest Service and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) under a single command structure, for operational efficiency.

2 Air Pollution Control District (APCD)

3 Air Quality Management District (AQMD)

Table 5 The Water Boards support for 2019 fires.

Incident	Date
Taboose	September 4
Saddleridge	October 10
Sandalwood	October 10
Reche	October 10
Wolf	October 10
Getty	October 23
Kincade	October 23
Tick	October 24
Water	October 24
Getty	October 28
Easy	October 30
Hill	October 30
46	October 31
Eagle	November 5

For the 2019 fires listed in Table 5, the Water Boards verified critical infrastructure vulnerabilities, identified gaps, and addressed needs. During the wildfire response phase, the Water Boards monitored the situation and reported situation status to management and to the SOC as requested. The Water Boards also monitored and ensured water availability for firefighting and community needs. In the wildfire recovery phase, they determined the status and needs for each water system to provide guidance and options for consideration as needed. The Water Boards also assisted with Drinking Water Treatment Plants (WTP) and Water Treatment Facilities (WTF) assessment and recovery efforts and required the issuance of boil water notices (BWNs) to protect public health. Furthermore, the Water Boards conducted meetings and site surveys to review the effects from the wildfires and coordinated with partners and stakeholders as needed. The Water Boards also managed the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Rosa office closure for 5 ½ workdays. Throughout the fire response and recovery efforts, the Water Boards engaged with the SOC,

Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC), CalEPA, and Multiagency Task Force groups participating in emergency response coordination meetings.

C. Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Events

ERMaC responded to multiple PSPS events in 2019. Power shutoffs are an operational practice where energy companies turn off power to prevent the start and spread of wildfires. Local energy companies make the decision to turn off power by monitoring local fire danger conditions and considering weather and environmental factors. A power shutoff could mean no electricity for a long duration and wide expanse. Once high-threat conditions pass, energy companies will re-energize affected lines after inspection to ensure safety.

In response to 2019 PSPS events CalEPA was active at the SOC while coordinating with BDO ERMaC members and CUPAs to ensure there were control measures in place to mitigate off site impacts from hazardous material sites and facilities including refineries. CalEPA coordinated with CARB to develop emergency waivers for the use of portable generators during the PSPS events. The Water Boards verified critical infrastructure vulnerabilities, proactively informed Public Water Systems (PWS) in potentially affected and impacted areas and monitored the situation and reported situation status up the chain of command and to SOC as requested.

The Water Boards developed and disseminated PSPS guidance to public water systems via mass email, coordinated with Cal OES on power utility PSPS, and developed PSPS Geographic Information Service (GIS) mapping using information from Cal OES GIS. In addition, the Water Boards determined the needs of local water systems and referred the needs to SOC, Operational Area EOC (OAEOC), and or CalWARN and provided guidance and identified options for consideration as needed.

III. Training, Presentation, Exercise, Plans, Symposiums, Projects, Reports, etc.

A. Presentations and Trainings given by ERMaC members:

January 8, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. Drinking Water in Emergencies. Environmental Health Training for Emergency Response (EHTER). Santa Cruz, CA.

February 5, 2019. Karen Riveles, OEHHA. Risk Communication. California Certified Unified Program Training Conference (CUPA). Anaheim, CA.

February 7, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. EHTER Awareness. California Certified Unified Program Training Conference (CUPA). Anaheim, CA.

March 4, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. Drinking Water in Emergencies. EHTER. Napa, CA.

March 6, 2019. Jason Boetzer, CalEPA. ERMaC Briefing. California Conference of Local Public Health Officers (CCLHO). Sacramento, CA.

March 26, 2019. Jason Boetzer, CalEPA. Overview of ERMaC and CA-ESF 10. CalEPA Tribal Advisory Committee. Sacramento, CA.

April 24, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. Drinking Water in Emergencies. EHTER. Sacramento, CA.

April 25, 2019. Karen Riveles, OEHHA. Environmental Health Issues in Wildfire Response. EHTER. Sacramento, CA.

May 22, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. Drinking Water in Emergencies. EHTER. San Jose, CA.

June 5, 2019. Joseph McCormack, CARB. Wildfire and Incident Air Monitoring Response Coordination. Primary Quality Assurance Organization Training Workshop. Davis, CA.

June 19, 2019. Karen Riveles, Environmental Health Issues in Wildfire Response. EHTER. Sacramento, CA.

July 23, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. Drinking Water in Emergencies. EHTER. Modesto, CA.

September 25, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. Drinking Water in Emergencies: EHTER Overview. Continuing Challenge, Sacramento, CA.

September 26, 2019. Karen Riveles, OEHHA. California Wildfires: From Natural Disasters to Natural Hazards. Continuing Challenge. Sacramento, CA.

September 26, 2019. Michael Pixton, DTSC. Incompatible Chemicals and What to Do with Them. Continuing Challenge. Sacramento, CA.

September 26, 2019. Michael Pixton, DTSC. Wildfire Debris and How to Deal with It. Continuing Challenge. Sacramento, CA.

September 27, 2019. Karen Riveles, OEHHA. Health Effects of Hydrofluoric Acid. Continuing Challenge. Sacramento, CA.

September 27, 2019. Michael Pixton, DTSC. How Does DTSC Emergency Response Help Local Agencies. Continuing Challenge. Sacramento, CA.

October 2, 2019. Jason Boetzer, CalEPA and Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. Drinking Water in Emergencies. California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) Annual Conference. Olympic Valley, CA.

October 24, 2019. Adam Palmer, DTSC and Bob Healey, CalRecycle. Disaster Response and Recovery (Camp Fire). CalEPA Headquarters. Sacramento, CA.

December 18, 2019. Joseph Crisologo, SWRCB DDW. US EPA Earthquake Resilience Workshop and Exercise. Pico Rivera, CA.

Quarterly, 2019. Jason Boetzer, CalEPA. CCDEH Emergency Response Committee.

B. Presentations and Trainings given at ERMaC meetings:

February 20, 2019. Joseph McCormack, CARB. Air Quality Sensors. ERMaC Meeting. CalEPA Headquarters. Sacramento, CA.

August 7, 2019. Stephanie Bucknam, SWRCB. SWRCB GIS StoryMap. ERMaC Meeting. CalEPA Headquarters. Sacramento, CA.

Oct 2, 2019. Erika Baker, Cal OES. WebEOC Version 8.6 update. ERMaC Meeting. CalEPA Headquarters. Sacramento, CA.

C. Exercise

CalEPA's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Activation

The CalEPA EOC was activated during a public safety power shutoff event. CalEPA's ERMaC conducted an exercise during the activation, which included updating the EOC computers and reviewing and updating the CalEPA ERMaC EOC Activation Procedures.

D. Review of External Plans:

Southern California Catastrophic Earthquake Plan

The plan provides a coordinated state/federal response to a catastrophic earthquake in Southern California to support the needs of the impacted community by saving and sustaining human life, minimizing suffering, stabilizing and restoring critical infrastructure and setting conditions for recovery.

Cal OES Volcanic Event State Level Response Plan: Concept of Operations (CONOPs)

California is also a land of volcanoes. This document identifies the state agencies that respond to volcanic eruptions, their jurisdictions, and responsibilities during a volcanic event. It represents the first efforts in developing a comprehensive volcano catastrophic response plan. Discussion and examples are drawn from the experiences of staff who responded to the Kīlauea Volcano eruption on the big island of Hawaii.

E. Symposiums

Refinery and Chemical Industry Emissions Symposium, November 6-8, 2019, Davis, CA

In response to recent episodic releases and fires from refineries and chemical industry facilities, CalEPA, CARB, partnering agencies and academia convened a conference to exchange information on the state of science and policy related to risks at refining facilities and appropriate responses. Refineries and chemical industry facilities store and use large quantities of chemicals. Some of these chemicals pose health risks since they may be toxic, become toxic due to reactions in the atmosphere, or pose a fire or explosion hazard. The conference provided a forum on modeling episodic and ongoing emissions from these facilities, measuring of emissions, and the use of models and measurements for appropriate emergency response, among other topics.

Prescribed Fire Smoke Management Training, November – December 2019, Sacramento, Fresno, and Santa Barbara, CA

CARB and the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) developed training for local air districts on CARB's smoke monitoring and reporting process including, modeling, public outreach, Title 17 and fire management regulations, and deployment of air monitors and data collection.



CARB's air monitor training sessions provide district staff hands-on opportunities to learn about equipment (e.g. the Environmental Beta-Attenuation Mass Monitor (Portable) (E-BAM)) deployment and operation.

F. Projects and Reports

Report: OEHHA Analysis of Refinery Chemical Emissions and Health Effects Final Refinery Report

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment released the “OEHHA Analysis of Refinery Chemical Emissions and Health Effects Final Refinery Report” on March 20, 2019. This report covers routine and non-routine emissions of chemicals from California refineries. The chemicals were prioritized according to their emission levels and toxicity.

Report: CARB Refinery Emergency Air Monitoring Assessment Report: Objective 2

CARB and CAPCOA have completed the second volume of the “Refinery Emergency Air Monitoring Assessment Report (REAMAR).” “REAMAR Objective 2: Evaluation of Air Monitoring Capabilities, Gaps, and Potential Enhancements,” was released March 2019. It provides recommendations aimed to strike a balance between local implementation and state oversight of a program to improve emergency and routine air monitoring at California's major refineries and in surrounding communities. The recommendations will guide the efforts of local air districts and CARB staff to develop air monitoring, modeling, and coordination guidance for each locality.

Delegation Visit from EPA Victoria, Australia

CalEPA, Cal OES, and CARB hosted representatives from the Environment Protection Authority/Victoria, Australia, on May 5 – 6, 2019. The delegation was interested in learning how California works in practice during emergencies. The delegation toured the Cal OES State Operations Center and met with lead staff. The delegation also met with representatives from OEHHA, CARB's Incident Air Monitoring Section and Office of Communication, as well as, other CalEPA emergency response and disaster preparedness groups.

Program: CARB and CAL FIRE Prescribed Fire Air Quality Monitoring Pilot Program

CARB and CAL FIRE created a multi-disciplinary team to examine best practices associated with prescribed burning, air quality monitoring and land management. CARB and CAL FIRE developed a pilot program for coordinating and conducting monitoring of prescribed burning and fuel reduction efforts. Strategies identified during the pilot projects will be used to create a broader smoke management training program that will focus on building capacity at the local level, including air pollution control districts and local resource management agencies.



A monitor used to measure and report smoke levels being deployed during a CAL FIRE prescribed fire burn project.

Interagency Refinery Monitoring Working Group

CARB developed an Interagency Refinery Monitoring Working Group to implement statewide guidance to carry out the recommendations of CARB and CAPCOA's joint final report "Refinery Emergency Air Monitoring Assessment Report, Objective 2: Evaluation of Air Monitoring Capabilities, Gaps and Potential Enhancements." The group aims to identify and promote effective methods for providing immediately actionable air quality data to incident commanders directly responsible for public safety during an unplanned refinery air release and ensure data is readily available to first responders and public in a clear, understandable format. The group met quarterly throughout 2019. It includes partners from the following agencies: CARB, CalEPA, OEHHA, South Coast AQMD, Santa Barbara County APCD, San Luis Obispo County APCD, San Joaquin Valley APCD, and the Bay Area AQMD.

Guidance Document: Phase 1 Procedures for Disaster Response - 2019

DTSC Emergency Response prepared guidelines that outlined the process for conducting Phase 1 removal of household hazardous waste, asbestos-containing material, and e-waste. This document will be distributed to requesting agencies impacted by natural and human-caused disasters.

Guidance Document: Wildfire Smoke: A Guide for Public Health Officials

OEHHA and CARB worked with the Wildfire Smoke Guide team of federal and California representatives to revise the “Wildfire Smoke: A Guide for Public Health Officials.” The guide is intended to provide state, tribal, and local public health officials with information they need to be prepared for smoke events and, when wildfire smoke is present, to communicate health risks and take measures to protect the public (<https://www.airnow.gov/wildfire-smoke-guide-publications/>). The group also released new updated fact sheets in March 2019 including:

- Protect Your Pets from Wildfire Smoke
- Protect Your Large Animals and Livestock from Wildfire Smoke

Fact Sheet: Wildfire Smoke - Guidance for Schools during Wildfire Smoke Events

OEHHA released the “Wildfire Smoke – Guidance for Schools” during Wildfire Smoke Events in December 2019. This factsheet provides guidance for school officials regarding the closure of schools and managing poor air-quality days due to a prolonged wildfire smoke event.

Training: Incident Command System Training Program

DTSC Emergency Response staff developed an Incident Command System training curriculum for DTSC executive staff and others within DTSC.

ERMaC Resources:

ERMaC updated the following resources in 2019:

- Emergency Contact Pocket Card: ERMaC created and distributed new emergency contact pocket cards to the team.
- Government Emergency Telecommunications Service/Wireless Priority Service (GETS/WPS) Card: New GETS/WPS cards were distributed to all BDOs and activated.
- CalEPA ERMaC SharePoint Site: The CalEPA ERMaC SharePoint Document Subcommittee was formed and met several times to cleanup

existing documents on the site. The subcommittee is now working to populate the site with new guidance documents.

- Welcome Packet: The Welcome Packet Subcommittee was formed to work on updates to the report. Preliminary updates to the report were made in 2019.
- ERMaC Training Subcommittee: The ERMaC Training Subcommittee was formed to develop an ERMaC Training and Exercise Plan for 2020.
- ERMaC Accomplishments Report Monthly Tracking Form: CalEPA ERMaC developed a new monthly tracking form for members to track response and recovery incidences, special projects, presentations, and training and exercises.
- ERMaC 2020 Work Plan: ERMaC developed work plan priorities for 2020.

IV. APPENDIX A: ACRONYM GUIDE

<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Definition</u>
AB	Assembly Bill
AQI	Air Quality Index
APCD	Air Pollution Control District
AQMD	Air Quality Management District
AREPs	Agency Representatives
BDOs	Boards, departments, and office
BMP	Best Management Practices
BWN	Boil Water Notice
CalARP	California Accidental Release Program
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Cal OES	California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
CalRecycle	Department of Resources, Recycling & Recovery
CalWarn	California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network
CAPCOA	California Air Pollution Control Officers Association
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCDEH	California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health
CCLHO	California Conference of Local Public Health Officers
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CDPH	California Department of Public Health
CDPR	California Department of Pesticide Regulation
CESA	California Emergency Services Act of 2006
CNG	California National Guard
CONOPs	Concept of Operations

CST	Civil Support Team
CUEA	California Utilities Emergency Association
CUPA	Certified Unified Program Agency
DDW	Division of Drinking Water at the State Water Board
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
DTSC ER	Department of Toxic Substances Control Emergency Response
E-BAM	Environmental Beta-Attenuation Mass Monitor (Portable)
e-waste	Electronic waste
ECC	Environmental Consultants + Contractors Inc.
EHTER	Environmental Health Training for Emergency Response
EMP	Environmental Management Program
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ER	Emergency Response
ERMaC	Emergency Response Management Committee
ESF-10	California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Support Function Annex
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigations
GETS	Government Emergency Telecommunications System
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HABs	Harmful Algal Blooms
HazMat	Hazardous Materials
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IAMS	Incident Air Monitoring Section
JFO	Joint Field Office
LEA	Local Enforcement Agencies
NIMS	National Incident Management System
OA	Operational Area
OAEOC	Operational Area Emergency Operations Center

OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
OHHABs	One Health Harmful Algal Bloom System
OSAP	Other State Agency Personnel
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
OSPR	Office of Spill Prevention and Response at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife
PM	Particulate Matter
PSPS	Public Safety Power Shutoff
PWS	Public Water Systems
RAPID	Railroad Accident Prevention and Immediate Deployment
REOC	Regional Emergency Operations Center
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SEMS	Standardized Emergency Management System
SEP	State Emergency Plan
SOC	State Operations Center
SSCS	Sanitary Sewer Collection Systems
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
US DOT	United States Department of Transportation
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
Water Boards	State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards
WPS	Wireless Priority Service
WTF	Water Treatment Facility
WTP	Drinking Water Treatment Plant
WWTF	Wastewater Treatment Facilities

V. APPENDIX B: ERMaC MEMBER AND SUPPORTING AGENCIES

Member Agencies:

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

CalEPA's Office of the Secretary coordinates and administers ERMaC and oversees various tasks:

- Coordination between CalEPA's six BDOs
- Emergency preparedness and response activities
- Preparation of agency and BDO emergency plans
- Coordination between federal, state, and local agencies
- Environmental recovery from major disasters involving hazardous materials

CalEPA provides a chairperson to ERMaC, and is the lead agency coordinator for oil and hazardous materials response and recovery actions under the ESF-10 Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Support Function Annex to the SEP. ERMaC was established to ensure that CalEPA's BDOs carry out emergency response planning, preparation, and incident response functions in a coordinated and effective manner.

California Air Resources Board (CARB)

CARB's Incident Air Monitoring Section (IAMS) focuses on protecting downwind communities in the event of unanticipated airborne releases affecting air quality. IAMS mission is to provide air monitoring support to help protect the public from acute exposure to hazards and focuses its efforts on wildfire smoke monitoring. Since the passage of Assembly Bill 617, which is the Nonvehicular air pollution: criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants (2017-2018) bill, CARB has focused its efforts on creating more holistic community air monitoring capabilities. CARB is orienting its program to include air monitoring for other non-routine air emissions and incidents.

California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR)

The mission of CDPR is to protect human health and the environment by regulating pesticide sales and use, and by fostering reduced risk pest management. CDPR provides technical and investigative expertise for pesticide incidents and related events with the assistance of county agricultural commissioners. CDPR provides human and ecological toxicological data related to pesticide exposure, public and occupational health and safety information, and various California pesticide sales and usage.

Department of Resources, Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle)

CalRecycle is responsible for the regulation of solid waste facilities in California, which includes landfills, closed disposal sites, transfer stations and other solid waste processing facilities. Local Enforcement Agencies (LEA) enforce CalRecycle's regulations typically through city and county environmental health programs. CalRecycle provides technical expertise to LEAs and other government agencies on the management of disaster debris including characterization, reduction/recycling processes, transportation and disposal. In certain cases, when authorized by a Governor's Executive Order and funding is provided, CalRecycle has managed disaster debris removal operations by providing staff and contractor resources.

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)

DTSC's Emergency Response Program provides statewide response to actual and potential releases of hazardous substances that pose an acute threat to public health and/or the environment. DTSC Emergency Response interacts with a number of other federal, state and local agencies in carrying out these response activities. DTSC Emergency Response also responds to requests from local agencies seeking assistance with removing hazardous waste associated with natural or human-caused disasters such as floods, fires, and earthquakes. The Emergency Response Program responds to calls requesting DTSC's assistance for removals from illegal/ clandestine drug labs and other hazardous materials (HazMat) emergencies throughout the state. The DTSC's Emergency Response Duty Officers handle requests for assistance.

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)

OEHHA provides toxicological expertise and public health recommendations during all phases of emergency management. OEHHA aids in emergencies by providing emergency personnel with information on the adverse health effects of chemical agents and by characterizing the risk to the public and environment from chemical releases. OEHHA identifies different exposure scenarios, their potential health effects, and exposure levels. OEHHA also provides information on re-entry, cleanup, and clearance levels after a hazardous materials release. OEHHA also assesses seafood safety following marine and inland oil spills.

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

The State and Regional Water Boards in California are dedicated to a single vision: abundant clean water for human uses and environmental protection to sustain California's future. The State Water Resources Control Board develops policy and regulations for water quality protection, regulates drinking water, administers California's water rights system, provides financial assistance, and supports Regional Water Quality Control Board's efforts. The Regional Water Boards implement these policies and regulations, issue permits, evaluate compliance, and conduct enforcement.

Supporting Agencies:

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

Cal OES promotes collaboration between CalEPA and other state agencies by offering insight to statewide emergency response and emergency management perspectives relating to planning, operations, training, reporting, and financial assistance.

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

CDFA emergency preparedness and response functions address health-related incidents potentially effecting the state's food supply and commercial agricultural interests, including incidents effecting dairy, livestock, poultry, feed, and crop production. Agricultural emergencies involve disposal of livestock carcasses and food during natural disasters, livestock specific disasters, and other incidents involving disease or contamination. CDFA monitors these incidents, provides updated information to the involved agencies, and coordinates activities as necessary.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR)

Protecting and managing fisheries and wildlife habitats, CDFW wardens act as incident commanders and investigators on numerous oil spills and hazardous material incidents throughout California.

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Representatives of the CDPH Center for Healthy Communities Environmental & Occupational Emergency Preparedness Team and the CDPH Center for Environmental Health Environmental Management Branch serve as liaisons between CalEPA and CDPH by providing insight into public health perspectives relative to oil and/or hazardous materials incidents.

US Department of Transportation (US DOT)

The Regional Emergency Transportation Representative (ESF1) in Northern California for the US DOT acts as a liaison to the ERMaC regarding emergencies that impact transportation systems and infrastructure. The representative works on coordination, support, prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities among transportation stakeholders.

US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Region IX

US EPA Region IX's Emergency Response Program—with federal On-Scene Coordinators (OSC) based in San Francisco, Signal Hill, and Carson City, NV—responds to environmental disasters, hazardous materials releases, time-critical

removals, and inland oil spills that threaten human health and/or the environment. OSCs bring considerable federal authority and resources, as authorized under their governing statutes, to assist state and local agencies in emergency response, removal, and recovery efforts.

VI. APPENDIX C: ERMaC HISTORY AND AUTHORITIES

History

In its relatively brief history, CalEPA has risen to the challenge of major environmental emergencies. The beginnings of its interdisciplinary approach to emergency response are traced back to the year of the agency's formation in 1991. That year, the Cantara Loop, five miles north of Dunsmuir was the site of a tragic train derailment that spilled a toxic chemical into the upper Sacramento River. Public outcry for improved response from emergency responders to such incidents gave rise to the Railroad Accident Prevention and Immediate Deployment (RAPID) program. ERMaC owes its origin to RAPID, though the program was eventually disbanded. ERMaC has evolved in its place as the interdisciplinary forum of choice for coordinating CalEPA's emergency response and recovery efforts.

In 1998, Gerald G. Johnston – CalEPA's then-Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and Counsel – called for Agency BDOs to designate representatives to the CalEPA Emergency Response Multi-Agency Coordinating Group. His memorandum provided the initial mission statement and objectives for ERMaC. Subsequent to Executive Order D-3-99, the ERMaC focused on preparation for the Y2K calendar change.

With the Westley Tire Fire disaster in 1999, Undersecretary Brian Haddix refocused the working group on traditional disaster response scenarios. This iteration of ERMaC was known as the Emergency Response Management Advisory Committee. Later, under the leadership of Assistant Secretary Don Johnson, ERMaC focused on developing administrative orders and emergency plans for the BDOs with the assistance of Cal OES. After several years of effective service and realizing a role that was far more than advisory, ERMaC was renamed the Emergency Response Management Committee, adopting its first operating charter in 2004.

Statutory Authority

The California Emergency Services Act of 2006 (CESA) enacted a major update and consolidation of the state's emergency preparedness and response laws and executive orders. It required that all state agencies carry out activities assigned by the Governor and Cal OES. State agencies must cooperate with one another, Cal OES and other government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the effects of regional and statewide emergencies, as declared by the Governor. The statutory duties of ERMaC members under CESA align with their routine functional responsibilities for environmental protection.

VII. APPENDIX D: ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

The primary tools for defining CESA responsibilities are BDO-specific Administrative Orders. Administrative Orders refer to documents approved by CalEPA and Cal OES that describe the roles, responsibilities, and authorities of the respective agencies during state emergencies. Administrative Orders, prepared under the authority of the Governor's Executive Order W-9-91 and subsequent law, expand upon and consolidate emergency assignments of State agencies. CalEPA and its BDOs first developed collective Administrative Orders in 2002.

Each agency and BDO also develops an Emergency Response Plan that must be consistent with the provisions of the applicable Administrative Orders and the statutory authorities of the individual agency. Cal OES reviews and approves these plans, in accordance with California Standardized Emergency Management System and the National Response Framework, to accomplish assigned emergency management tasks. Agency plans may delegate authority and assign responsibilities to divisions, bureaus, field offices, or other elements of the agency. State agencies must ensure that all personnel assigned specific responsibilities in support of this plan receive adequate training and are prepared to assume those responsibilities.

CalEPA and the BDOs chartered ERMaC in 2004 as the forum for developing and maintaining the CalEPA collective Administrative Orders and Emergency Response Plans. ERMaC's mission is to manage effectively the public health and environmental consequences of emergency events through coordinated, agency-wide preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts. ERMaC is responsible for emergency planning and training, and coordinates all CalEPA entities preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies.

The CalEPA and BDO Administrative Orders were updated in 2014. Periodically, Cal OES requires the orders to be updated and recertified, notably when there is a significant change to the state's emergency plan, emergency policy or law.