



# Significant Wildfire Incidents (SWI) CONOPS Plan Implementation Guide

## Activation Triggers

- The responsible dispatch center will activate the appropriate notification and activation procedures to initiate the response to the incident site(s).
- Any jurisdiction in the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) region has the authority to activate this Concept of Operations (CONOPS).

## How to Activate this CONOPS

- Upon notification, the responsible dispatch center will activate appropriate notification and activation procedures to initiate the response to the incident site(s).
  - The response operation will flow in this general order:
    - **Phase I: Alert/Activation and Initial Attack:** E to E+12 hours. Activities in this phase include alerting and activating many assets and resources that are needed for response.
    - **Phase II: Continued Operations:** E+12 hours to E+72 hours. Activities in this phase include fire control and suppression, damage assessment, standing up shelters as needed, conducting law enforcement investigations, and continuing other response operations from Phase I.
    - **Phase III: Sustained Operations/Demobilization:** E+72 hours to E+10 days. Activities in this phase include the demobilization of available units while maintaining ongoing fire control/suppression operations. All activities and coordinating organizations will remain under the control and command of and receive support from the Unified Command (UC)/Area Command (AC). These operations will include resources from external sources, which still must be logistically identified, requested, staged, used, and supported. In addition, the shelters and the Family Assistance Center (FAC) may still be operational and require ongoing support.
  - A full list of critical tasks can be found in Appendix A: Task Checklist by Operational Phase.

## Operational Considerations

The response objectives of an SWI include the following:

- Provide for the safety of responders and the public.
- Protect property and the environment.
- Minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfires through planning and mitigation.
- Control and extinguish wildfires at a reasonable cost.
- Provide shelter and other assistance for those displaced by a significant wildfire.
- Deploy regional assets in a timely manner and reduce duplication of efforts.
- Maximize the use of regional resources to avoid dependence on state or federal resources.

Other activities should include:

- Establish a jurisdictional or joint information center.
- Ensure response personnel address secondary hazard considerations.
- Establish a staging area.
- Assess personnel and equipment requirements.
- Develop and execute incident action plans on all response operations.
- Manage responder safety and health.
- Establishing area command if necessary.

## Communications Considerations

- For site-specific UC communications, UCs will rely on radio, cell (voice and text), and face-to-face communications.
- Alternate communication methods include fax, e-mail, WebEOC, and amateur (ham) radio.

RCPI Plan Integration	
MACC	X
CMIS	X
HURR-SAR	
IED-SAR	
AMOPS	X
CMOC	X
RNEMR	X
PHCF	
MFM	X
RECP	
TMC-FLU	