

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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**ATTACHMENT 9**

Date: May 22, 2014

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Trench Rescue Curriculum Update

Recommended Actions:

Information/Discussion only

Background Information:

The Trench Rescue workgroup, operating initially under a Homeland Security grant from the CalOES, is presenting the Trench Rescue Technician training program to be considered for approval as an FSTEP class. The course materials meet all the State Fire Training Requirements. CMC Rescue, Inc is prepared to publish the text for the class. The program has been tested and piloted as the course developers continued to develop and refine the course materials.

The Trench Rescue training program was first introduced to STEAC as a concept at the July 20, 2007 meeting. The project suffered lack of funding and state budget. With those issues resolved, and with the assistance of a professional licensed soils engineer, the Trench Rescue cadre reintroduced the curriculum to STEAC at the January 2014 meeting and again for approval at the February 28, 2014 meeting.

At the February STEAC meeting a memo from FIRESCOPE's Technical Rescue Task Group was discussed. Members of the task group were adamantly opposed to training with the engineered shoring systems that include 2"X12" lumber. STEAC postponed the recommendation for approval pending additional information from FIRESCOPE.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

The Trench Rescue Cadre Lead is meeting with the FIRESCOPE task group to address and hopefully resolve conflicts that would prevent this curriculum from moving forward.

The Trench Rescue Technician training program used a nationally recognized soils engineer who provided tabulated data for the shoring systems validating the construction and ability to provide the necessary support in all soil types and conditions. The FIRESCOPE Task group is seeking alternatives to 2"X12" lumber.