For many years the Office of the State Fire Marshal has been reaching out to our stakeholders and partners through a monthly newsletter. In the last couple of years the OSFM has gone from a monthly to bi-monthly newsletter and now we have transitioned to a quarterly state-wide update. This change comes not because there isn’t enough to put into a monthly release, but because we have been extremely busy. Over the last two years, OSFM projects and interactions have sky rocketed. Programs have seen a wide variety of activities and increases of state-wide construction projects, inspections in every program area, workload in the updating of State Fire Training, and interactions with industries and manufacturers impacting fire safety. We have also increased our non-printed outreach efforts by attending local and regional stakeholder meetings, providing training and education in topics impacting the OSFM, and participating in committee work at local and state levels. We strive to keep the webpage up-to-date, State Fire Training has turned to Twitter to share time sensitive information and the OSFM has partnered with list servers and “e-blasts”, such as California Fire Chiefs Association, to push information out faster and more effectively. May you find value in this quarter’s information.

Since 1933, the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has been dedicated to reducing and preventing fires. This month fire prevention efforts are a focus for the fire service throughout the country and especially in California. October has been designated as Fire Prevention Month with the first full week of October recognized as National Fire Prevention Week. October is also the month that the California fire service honors our fallen firefighters with a special ceremony on the State Capital lawn at the State’s Fallen Firefighter Memorial. This year the ceremony takes place on the last day of Fire Prevention Week. I believe it is only fitting to use this month’s message as an opportunity to honor those individuals, thank their families for sharing their loved one with our great state, and never forget what we as the fire service stand for. It is also fitting to honor our firefighters on a week that is dedicated to reducing fire deaths and injuries of not only our citizens but those that serve our citizens.

The fire fight starts before the first sign of smoke or the first flicker of flame. We in the fire service are dedicated to fighting fire, whether it is by reducing that risk through the use of up-to-date codes and regulations, reaching out to our communities with fire prevention messages, installing smoke alarms in homes, or responding when a fire tragedy strikes. To every member of the fire service, let this month be a reminder that we each have a role and responsibility to protect our communities and each other. We are a team in the fire triangle.

Be Safe,

Tonya L. Hoover
State Fire Marshal
STATE FIRE TRAINING DIVISION

Implementation of Capstone Certification Examinations for Fire Fighter I Certification

The California State Fire Training and Education Strategic Plan 2008 (Blueprint 2020) address the desire of State Fire Training (SFT) stakeholders to see implementation of certification (capstone) testing for professional certifications issued by SFT. Furthermore, as SFT pursues national recognition in the form of accreditation by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (Pro Board) a certification examination process must be implemented to satisfy their accreditation requirements.

With the complete rewrite of the Fire Fighter I curriculum to meet the provisions of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) professional qualification standards, and since it is our entry certification, SFT has been developing implementation plans for delivery of both written and skills certification examinations for this level. SFT has prepared a detailed process for implementation of both written and skills certification examinations to be delivered by Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP) and Accredited Local Academies (ALA). This process has been discussed in great detail with representatives from both ARTPs and ALAs. Furthermore, SFT has been engaged in on-going dialogue with stakeholder groups, the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) and the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) on implementation. SFT believes that implementing the certification examination process is an important step in strengthening our certification system.

SFT will continue to meet with stakeholders to discuss the implementation of a certification examination process and understand their concerns. To date, SFT has met with the following groups:

- California Fire Chiefs Association (CFCA) Board of Directors (February 19, 2014)
- CFCA NorCal Training Officers Board of Directors (April 15, 2014)
- CFCA SoCal Training Officers Board of Directors (April 1, 2014)
- California Fire Training Directors Association (CFTDA) (on-going)
- Accredited Local Academies (ALAs) (April 29, 2014)
- California State Fire Fighters Association (CSFA) Board of Directors (May 1, 2014)
- Los Angeles Area Fire Chief’s Association, Regional Training Group (April 2, 2014)
- FIRESCOPE Board of Directors (July 9, 2014)
- California Metro Fire Chiefs Association (July 10, 2014)

Presentations to the following stakeholder groups are pending:

- League of California Cities, Fire Chiefs Department Board of Directors
- Fire Districts Association of California (FDAC) Board of Directors

The reaction has been positive from the stakeholder groups so far. There have not been any new concerns raised that require further analysis or modifications to the proposed implementation plans. However, SFT will continue to engage stakeholder groups in discussion on this important initiative.

Notwithstanding a major concern that may surface from the stakeholder groups, SFT is planning to bring this proposed Fire Fighter I certification examination process back to STEAC for approval at the January 16, 2015 meeting, and to the SBFS at the February 19, 2015 meeting.

Questions on the proposed certification examination process or requests for stakeholder presentations should be addressed to Ken Wagner (916) 425-2995 or ken-wagner@comcast.net.
New SFT Curriculum Projects Underway
State Fire Training (SFT) is achieving great success with updating its curriculum based on the NFPA standards. The following Certification Standards & Curriculum have already been approved by STEAC & SBFS:

- Fire Fighter I & II
- Company Officer
- Instructor I & II

The following Certification Standards & Curriculum are awaiting approval by the SBFS at its October 2014 meeting:

- Chief Fire Officer
- Executive Chief Fire Officer
- Instructor III
- Community Risk Educator, Community Risk Specialist & Community Risk Officer

SFT would like to thank all of the SFT Cadre Leads and cadre members for making this last year a great success.

SFT is gearing up to get underway on the new curriculum development projects for fiscal year 14/15. They are as follows:

CFSTES Courses
- Emergency Vehicle Technician I/II/III
- Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator
- Fire Marshal
- Plans Examiner (Revisions)
- Fire Investigator (Exploratory only)
- Continuing Education (Draft Plan Only)

FSTEP Courses
- Instructor 2A, 2B, & 2C
- Incident Management of:
  -2A: Multiple Alarm Fires
  -2B: Special Operations
  -2C: High-Rise Fires
- Management 2C (Labor-Management)
- Fire Control 3A & 3B
- Vehicle Extrication
- Command & Control of RIC Deployments
Open Water Rescue Training
The Southern California Training Officers Association (So Cal TO’s) conducted a panel discussion regarding the new “Open Water Rescuer” training program on August 5, 2014. This program was approved by the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee on January 17, 2014. The So Cal TO’s panel discussion included Cal OSHA regulations regarding employee safety and training along with statutory authority in an open water emergency. The panel discussion highlighted that the “Open Water Rescuer” training program is an awareness level program that accomplishes several things:

- Provides fire fighters enhanced safety in open water
- Provides a capability to perform open water rescue
- But, does not replace lifeguards or lifeguard training!

Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department recommends that firefighters and rescue teams working in an open water environment have some basic skills for their own safety and for the safety of the victim. The cadre had reviewed training materials developed by the United States Lifesaving Association (USLA) but opted to stay true to the NFPA standard regarding water rescuer.

The course developers working with the California Fire Chiefs and the CAL Chiefs, Training Officers Association presented a training program that addresses the immediate operational needs of local fire departments working in an aquatic environment by adjusting the course plan to meet the requirements of swimming contact rescue found in NFPA 1670 and NFPA 1006 Chapter 11, sections 11.2, Chapter 15, sections 15.2. The USLA Manual will be used as an appropriate text book for the class.

For more information regarding this program you can contact Rodney Slaughter (Rodney.slaughter@fire.ca.gov) or Mike Garcia (mike.garcia@fire.ca.gov).

State Fire Training News from the Central Coast:
The latest in instructional technology was unveiled on July 31, 2014 during the grand opening ceremony at Alan Hancock Colleges Lompoc Valley Center, for a $38 Million dollar Public Safety Training Center located in Lompoc, California. Alan Hancock College is a State Fire Marshal accredited regional training program (ARTP). The facility was funded by bond Measure I approved by voters in 2006, and encompasses 68 acres to accommodate fire, emergency medical and law enforcement training programs.

The fire training center consists of a six-story tower with state of the art fire props, smoke, audio, ventilation props and a dedicated rope station. There is a 1,350 sq. ft. Class A burn building that can have a fire in every room with ventilation and forcible entry props. The center was built with various props for; confined space rescue, Rescue System 1 and 2, vehicle fires and auto extrication. There is a vehicle operators area for SFM driver operator training, a skid pad and obstacle course. This is also used for law enforcement and ambulance driver training. There is an “engine house” that replicates an actual fire station layout, including apparatus bay, living quarters, kitchen etc.
STATE FIRE TRAINING DIVISION (CONTINUED)

SFT E-NEWS SUBSCRIPTION COMING SOON!
Over the last several months State Fire Training (SFT) has experienced unprecedented changes in student curriculum, certification and professional credentialing. As a stakeholder it is important to stay informed of these rapidly evolving changes, therefore, in an attempt to deliver the information that best fits individual interests, SFT will soon launch an E-news subscription service with the express goal of keeping you informed. The tool to subscribe to this service will be found on the SFT webpage located at: http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/training.php.

E-news will be directed to specific audiences namely: Students/General Information, Instructors, and Boards and Committees. There will also be a choice for all three areas of interest. Once subscribed, you will receive email alerts informing you of potential changes that may impact your educational and certification requirements. Instructors will receive changes to course plans, teaching requirements and related procedural updates. Members of Boards and Committees can keep up to date with agendas and minutes and other important need to know information.

SFT is very excited to offer this service to improve and modernize our communication methods to keep you better informed with up-to-date and pertinent information. Check with the SFT website often and watch for your opportunity to subscribe.

CODE DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS DIVISION

• **Supplement to 2013 California Building Standards Code Rulemaking Cycle**
In accordance with Health and Safety Code 13108, 13110, 13143, 13143.6, and 13211, the OSFM proposed certain amendments and building standards for the interim supplement to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, and the 2013 California Building Standards Codes. The California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) took action to approve and adopt the OSFM proposals at their July 22, 2014 hearing. The following are some of the key items in the supplement:

  • Incorporation and correlation of NFPA 2 Hydrogen Technologies Code into the California Codes.
  • Correlation of regulations regarding smoke alarms and statutory changes made by SB 1394 (2012) and SB 745 (2013).
  • Clarification and editorial modifications for photovoltaic solar systems.
  • Clarification and coordination of residential fire sprinkler systems, antifreeze and NFPA 13D including modifications to the referenced standards.
  • Smoke and heat removal systems for Group F-1 and S-1 occupancies.
  • Clarification and coordination of residential fire sprinkler backflow requirements of the model code.
  • Proposes to make permanent emergency regulations for the delayed effective date of UL 1703 for fire classification of PV systems on roofs, please see OSFM Information Bulletin 14-002 Addendum.

The CBSC has set the timeline for publication of January 1, 2015 with an effective date July 1, 2015.
For additional information please visit the 2013 Intervening Code Cycle webpage.

• **2016 California Building Standards Code (Triennial Rulemaking Cycle)**
OSFM and the other agencies are beginning the pre-rulemaking activities for the 2016 California Codes (2015 IBC, IFC...). Expect some workshops and stakeholder meetings over the next 6-9 months. If you would like to be on the stakeholders list please email kevin.reinertson@fire.ca.gov

• **Flammability Standards for Building Insulation Materials Working Group (AB127)**
Legislation was passed in 2013 that added Section 13108.1 to the Health and Safety Code (AB 127, Skinner Fire safety: fire retardants: building insulation), that requires the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair, Home Furnishings, and Thermal Insulation, to review the flammability standards for building insulation materials, including whether the flammability standards for some insulation materials can only be met with the addition of chemical flame retardants. The State Fire Marshal has convened a working group to assist in the review and provide recommendations regarding the flammability standards for building insulation materials. The working group goal is to complete their report and recommendations at the September meeting. The current draft report summarizes existing studies and technical reports that have been reviewed. Further, the working group has...
CODE DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS DIVISION (CONTINUED)

developed several assemblies that are to be tested utilizing insulation materials without fire retardants. The working group is reviewing current and existing testing criteria (e.g. ASTM-E119) to determine the most suitable test to compare non FR insulated assemblies vs. FR insulated assemblies.

For additional information please visit the Flammability Standards for Building Insulation Materials Working Group webpage

• Other Significant Activities
OSFM-CDA Staff is participating again on the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research reconvened Solar Permitting Task Force to update and revise the Guidebook developed in 2012 to include recently adopted SFM regulations.

Governor’s Office of Planning Research – Renewable Energy in California
Governor’s Office of Planning Research – California Solar Permitting Guidebook
OSFM-CDA Staff continue to participate with other state agencies, stakeholders and the California Fuel Cell Partnership in the development of regulations, training, and outreach for the Governor’s Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEVs) plan (Executive Order B-16-2012).

Governor’s Office of Planning Research – Zero-Emission Vehicles in California
Governor’s Office of Planning Research – Zero-Emission Vehicles in California: Community Readiness Guidebook

FIRE ENGINEERING DIVISION

Over the last few months the Automatic Extinguishing Systems Program has been busy working through several items. The following is just a snapshot of interesting and important projects

Fire Sprinkler Fitter Certification Work Group
Health and Safety Code Section 13110 authorizes the OSFM to propose, adopt, and administer the regulations that he or she deems necessary in order to ensure fire safety in buildings and structures and would require regulations that are building standards to be submitted to the State Building Standards Commission for approval. It also authorizes the OSFM to establish and collect reasonable fees to implement these provisions. The Office of the State Fire Marshal, through its Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Committee (AES), has formed a work group to review and make recommendations to the AES Advisory Committee concerning whether the OSFM should establish a certification program for the fire sprinkler fitters. Recommendation from the work group has been submitted to the AES Advisory Committee meeting held on September 24, 2014. The State Fire Marshal will make the final decision on this matter.

Code Adoption of NFPA 25
The OSFM has adopted the NFPA 25, 2011 edition. The document will become NFPA 25, 2013 California Edition with an effective date of August 28, 2014. The amendments can be found in Title 19 Chapter 5, California Codes of Regulations (CCR). Also, incorporated portions of the licensing requirements in Title 19, CCR into the NFPA 25, 2013 California Edition. NFPA 25, 2013 California Edition will be available from the publisher, BNI Building News, 1612 South Clementine St. Anaheim, CA 92802-2901, in approximately 60 days.
The Fire & Life Safety division has been extremely busy since our last newsletter. The following is a short description of just a few of the high profile projects the Division has been actively involved in completing:

- In the South, the new 11-story, $340 million San Bernardino Courthouse officially opened for business May 1, 2014. Fire & Life Safety staff worked countless hours to ensure that the courthouse opened on schedule.

- A groundbreaking ceremony was conducted on March 10, 2014 to commemorate the much-anticipated start of construction of the New Central Courthouse for the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego, in downtown San Diego.

- The 22-story building will include 71 courtrooms in 704,000 square feet and will feature significant improvements in security, with a secure vehicle sallyport for the transportation of in-custody defendants, as well as better safety, and improved access and efficiency for county residents. Completion is scheduled for fall 2016.

- The $162 million Phase 1 portion of the new San Diego County Women’s Detention Facility (SDCWDF) in Santee was completed on June 30. The project, which began 160 days behind schedule, was opened on time. Fire & Life Safety staff along with the project management team worked many long hours to meet the court ordered completion date. The $60 million Phase 2 portion has begun and is scheduled to open January 7, 2016.

In the North, work is progressing on many projects including the new San Joaquin Superior Courthouse. Demolition of the site has been completed and the footings are scheduled to begin. This project is a 342,000 square foot, 14 story high rise courthouse with a projected completion date of October 2016.

- The Yolo Superior Courthouse is approximately 50% complete with an anticipated completion date of May 2015. This facility will be 5 stories and will provide 14 courtrooms and a total of 179,670 square feet of new space.

- The California Exposition and State Fair partnered with Ovations and the Sacramento Republic Football Club to bring Bonney Field to the Sacramento sports community. The $3 million facility hosts 8,000 fans on state property as Cal Expo presents a “full soccer pitch” or 120 x 80 yard field; one of the largest in the country for a professional soccer club. The design-build construction of the facility began in March 2014 and was expedited to host the June 20, Sac Republic soccer match and June 21 USA Rugby Match. With the cooperative efforts of the project team and a dedicated assignment of Deputy State Fire Marshals; the project was able to accomplish the GOOOOOOOOOAL!
The Mule Creek Infill Complex is contracted at $330 million and located in Amador County, located 50 miles east of Sacramento. The Complex will provide the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation with a new 1,584 bed correctional facility including various housing elements, Program Support Services, Work Zone Buildings, Administration, Facility Support Services, Family Visiting and the Secure Perimeter. The project is “design build” and submitted mitted for State Fire Marshal Review in phases. The assigned Deputy State Fire Marshal is committed to 198 hours of construction inspection and plan review between the weeks of August 12-September 30 as the project continues to make great strides.

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION (CONTINUED)

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PLANNING AND RISK ANALYSIS
FIRE AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (FRAP)

2015 Forest and Range Assessment in Full Swing

Every five years, OSFM Fire and Resource Assessment Program publishes an assessment of the State’s forest and range resources. This assessment covers a wide range of topics, including such things as a statewide analysis of wildfire threat, insect and disease issues, watershed health, status of wildlife and wildlife habitat, developments in urban forestry and open space and the status of the forest and range industry in California. This material is used by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to create a detailed policy statement for the State’s forest and range resources.

Work on the 2015 Assessment is in full gear. Staff is developing chapters, reviewing and revising data; and holding quarterly workshops/webinars on various topics to solicit public participation. The next public meeting will take place in October. Watch the CAL FIRE website under FRAP for the webinar announcement.

Mark Rosenberg appointed to the National Planning Committee for Forest Inventory Program

FRAP’s Mark Rosenberg has been appointed to National Planning Committee for the United States Forest Service ongoing Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) Program. This is a key program as it provides guidance on forest inventory efforts across the country. The inventory measures key elements of the forest, such as tree size, health, biomass, species, density and carbon sequestered. These statistics then form the basis for analyzing programs at the local, state, regional and national levels. These analyses can range from where and how to manage forest areas to the best places to keep forests growing to hold carbon as mitigation for greenhouse gases associated with climate change.
The National FIA meeting was held in Sacramento in June. Several CAL FIRE staff gave presentations; including a keynote address by the Director of CAL FIRE, Chief Ken Pimlott. It was clear from the presentation that officials in California recognize both the challenges and importance of the FIA program. Mark Rosenberg will carry that interest forward in his work with the Committee.

Forests and Climate Change
California forests are a valuable natural resource and play an important role in achieving the State’s climate goals. The vast extent and diversity of forests in California is exceptional (see Figure 1 below). Forests can help absorb carbon dioxide and counteract the emissions that cause climate change. At the same time, California forests are also in need of protective actions to prepare them to withstand mounting climate threats such as increasing temperatures, drought, increasing risk of pest infestations, and increasing risk of severe wildfires. Studies are currently underway to investigate fire severity and frequency trends.

Forests can provide many other benefits, besides absorbing carbon dioxide, which will assist with climate problems. For instance, trees and forests help anchor soil and absorb rain and snowmelt, so flooding and landslides are less severe. Forests also help regulate the timing and magnitude of water runoff and water flows; and they have very significant impacts on water quality, because they provide a filtering function that prevents impurities from entering streams, lakes, and groundwater.

In addition, forests provide critical habitat for wildlife and fish that will be increasingly stressed by climate impacts. Sustainably managed forests may also provide forest products like lumber that provide long-term carbon storage, as well as woody material or ‘biomass’ for energy production. Trees in urban environments, or ‘urban forests’, capture and store carbon dioxide and are capable of providing significant shading and other cooling benefits that can reduce urban temperatures and energy needs. Urban forests can also help filter air pollutants and can help absorb rainfall that would otherwise run over streets and wash pollutants into nearby waterways that are already under increasing stress from climate threats.

California’s effort to address climate change was initiated with the passage of AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. AB32 requires the State to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and to maintain and continue GHG emission reductions beyond 2020. In addition, AB 32 requires the State to develop a Scoping Plan to achieve the GHG emissions reductions and update the Plan every 5 years. California’s first AB32 Scoping Plan Update, approved May 2014, builds upon the initial Scoping Plan with new strategies and recommendations to reduce GHG emissions. The Scoping Plan Update identifies climate change priorities and provides a road map to reach California’s long-term climate goal of an 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050.

Forestry issues are addressed in the Natural and Working Lands section of the Scoping Plan Update. This section of the report calls for the development of a Forest Carbon Plan. The purpose of the Forest Carbon Plan is to develop regional GHG emissions targets. Intent is to evaluate strategies and investment choices to enhance forest capacity to sequester carbon and promote the broader range of environmental services that natural and working forests provide. The Forest Carbon Plan is being developed and implemented through an inter-agency team referred to as FCAT (Forest Climate Action Team). FCAT includes representatives from CAL FIRE, State Parks, The Natural Resources Agency, Cal EPA, the Air Resources
Forest Service and the Governor’s Office. FCAT is focused on identifying approaches and incentives to forest management that will maximize climate benefits and the broader range of services that healthy forests provide. CAL FIRE is taking a lead role in developing the Forest Carbon Plan and in directing the work of FCAT. Through FCAT, CAL FIRE will work with partner agencies and stakeholders to develop a Forest Carbon Plan that is expected to be completed late in 2016.

**FIRE PLAN / CAIRS**

As anticipated, a lot has been going on with the Fire Plan and CAIRS Programs.

**CAIRS:** Kirsti Fong was requested to provide training for incident reporting in Southern California for local government fire agencies. The Glendale Fire Department hosted a three day workshop from June 30 to July 2, which was attended by 18 local fire departments throughout Southern California. A total of 76 individuals were provided training on the latest information on the National Fire Incident Reporting System, or NFIRS. The training was very well received, and Kirsti was highly commended on an excellent presentation.

**Fire Prevention Engineering:** Deputy Chief Matt Lee has been aggressively implementing a new reporting program for wildland fire investigations. Named after the form number for which investigations are done, the new LE-66 program requires firefighters to coordinate data entry for their fire reports in a new electronic format. Previously, LE-66 forms were written by hand, which severely limited the number of people who had access to this vital information for fire investigations. With the new program, CAL FIRE’s law enforcement bureaus can now have electronic access to information from around the state, enhancing their ability to coordinate investigation efforts. Both Chief Lee and Kirsti Fong in the CAIRS Program have been engaged in providing training webinars, as well as teaching this new format at the Fire Academy in Ione.

Chief Lee has also been compiling inspection data for the LE-100 Defensible Space Program. And with the busy fire season at hand, he has also been coordinating the collection of damage inspection data for structures that have been damaged or destroyed due to fires throughout the state. A new data collection program that will combine all this information is being pursued, and will hopefully come online for Defensible Space Inspections to begin early next spring.

**Land Use Planning:** We are pleased to welcome Deputy Chief Pete Munao to the manager’s position for the new Land Use Planning Program, which was established as a result of SB-1241. Chief Munao began his new assignment on June 16, 2014, and has been actively involved with interviews in both Northern and Southern California to hire Battalion Chiefs and Fire Captains who will be involved with this new program. The new Land Use Planning personnel will become engaged with local government planning officials to help incorporate higher levels of fire safety elements into General Plans throughout the state.

**Fire Plan:** Staff Chief David Shew continues to work with gathering updates for this year’s State Responsibility Area Boundary Review. Data is being compiled from around the state for review by the State Board of Forestry in spring of 2015. In addition, Unit Fire Plans have been completed by all 21 CAL FIRE Units, and 6 Contract Counties, and are being compiled to provide an update to the State Board of Forestry in early October. Chief Shew has also been presenting information to various groups throughout the state on CAL FIRE’s prevention activities, encouraging a more robust effort by all stakeholders, both public and private, to become leaders in Fire Prevention. This message is being well received with enthusiasm from participating groups. The Fire Plan continues to lead the way for wildland fire planning, prevention, and education.