



Memorandum of Understanding



I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to state the terms of a mutual agreement (the Memorandum of Understanding) between the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit (MMU) and the Mountain Amateur Radio Club (MARC) of Oakhurst to provide a framework for the provision of volunteer communications and other services of MARC members to CDF MMU during times of natural or manmade disasters.

II. BACKGROUND OF THE ORGANIZATIONS

CDF MMU is an organization providing public safety and emergency services over a wide geographical area in various types of terrain. Its operations in times of emergencies and disasters are often wide-ranging and long-lasting, utilizing a wide variety of services and equipment and a large number of people, and are often characterized by considerable inter-organizational complexity involving communications within its own structure and with other public and private organizations.

MARC is a non-commercial membership organization of individual amateur radio operators, organized for the promotion of interest in and practices of Amateur Radio communications, and for the establishment of networks to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies. MARC members are interested in supporting the efforts of CDF MMU and other national and state organizations in times of natural or manmade disasters. Amateur radio operators can provide communications circuits in unusual conditions, and where communications circuits are otherwise unavailable or are overloaded, and between organizations whose own communications circuits are inoperable or will not cover the longer distances involved in an emergency event. MARC members, skilled in various aspects of radio communications and many also skilled with computer operations, can also be trained to operate the equipment of and within the operating regimes of another organization.

III. PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

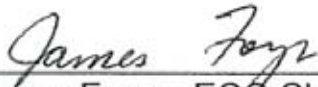
Under the direction of CDF MMU, MARC volunteers will provide support assistance during times of natural or manmade disasters by:

- providing communication backup in times of need with portable equipment on authorized amateur radio frequencies,
- providing direct supplementary communication with other agencies who may be involved in a disaster situation,
- providing support with resource ordering during expanded dispatch operations by utilizing the Multi Agency Incident Response Processing System (MIRPS), and
- providing support during unit training events and disaster drills.

CDF MMU agrees to provide MARC volunteers with:

- logistical support during CDF MMU training and emergency operations,
- training with MIRPS and other CDF MMU activities and equipment as CDF MMU deems appropriate,
- meals in appropriate situations where meals are provided by CDF MMU for disaster situation workers,
- reimbursement during wildland fire incidents will be by FC 42

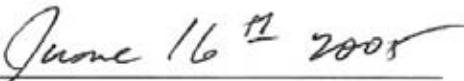
Both CDF MMU and MARC agree to work in cooperation, providing emergency assistance and response in times of need in a professional and efficient manner.



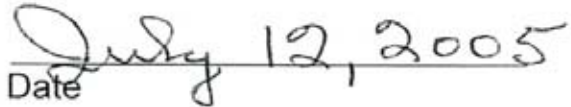
James Forga, ECC Chief
CDF MMU



Richard Rekart
Emergency Preparedness Chrmn
MARC




Date



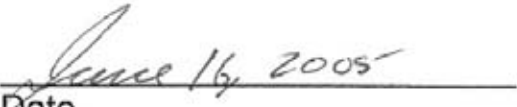
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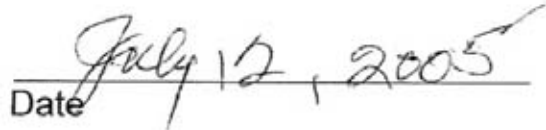
Gary Marshall, Chief
CDF MMU



Joseph Reymann
President, MARC



Date



Date