APPENDIX D- LIGTHTNING AND COMPLEX INCIDENT PLAN

FRESNO KINGS UNIT

Lightning and Complex Incident Plan

Background

The Fresno Kings Unit Lightning and Complex Incident Plan has been created to guide Unit operational and support personnel through the significant demands that any multiple component emergency incident can cause. Lightning events are an example of an incident that can become especially overwhelming for Unit ECC operations as the complexity of the situation increases. The intent of this plan is to move incidents of this type off the main Emergency Command Center (ECC) floor to an independent incident organization for management complexity and span of control. Preparation of this plan was originally prepared with the intent of managing lightning incidents; however it is recognized that it can be activated for any incident that presents similar demands on the ECC. This plan is designed as an outgrowth of the Incident Command System (ICS) using the standard organizational elements to cover geographic areas that are impacted by lightning or any other emergency incident that exceeds the operational control of the Unit ECC.

Activation

Stage I Prediction,

Lightning event or other incident has been predicted via National Weather Service Warning.

Stage II Activation,

Lightning down strikes or other incidents have been observed and/or lightning fires have been reported.

ECC Operations

Stage I Prediction

☐ Notify Unit, Cooperators, and adjacent Units that the Plan is to be activated.

☐ Initiate authorization of staffing pattern with Duty Chief.

☐ Staff additional personnel for *Stage I* as per Duty Chief.

☐ Open Expanded Dispatch as ICP/Assign IC.

☐ Explore opportunities to staff lookouts for detection support, activate lookouts (fire only)

☐ Status available aircraft for detection (fire only).

☐ IC to establish Branch geographic/functional areas as per the incident demand.

☐ Consider the need for Logistics Section, FLO, and FEM.

☐ Modify the IA Dispatch from full response to a level that considers incident complexity/demand.

Stage II Activation

☐ Notify Unit, Cooperators, and adjacent Units that the Plan has entered *Stage II.*

☐ Staff utility vehicles in affected Branches with additional Overhead (Pre-Fire, VMP, Prevention or Area Forester).

☐ Establish Planning Section with a minimum of Situation and Resource Units at the ICP.

☐ Assign detection and suppression aircraft or coordinate with National Forest or adjacent units to share aviation resources.

☐ Initiate ICS structure for detection and management of incident activity in each Branch.

☐ Assign detection and operational resources to Branches based on IC priorities.

☐ IC will work from the Lightning ICP and continue to coordinate with the ECC for Resources.

All lightning fire detection and suppression activity will move to the Lightning Plan ICS organization and remain independent of the normal Unit ECC operations.

Field Operations

IC will be responsible for the tracking of all resources assigned to each Branch. It is the responsibility for the IC to reconcile resource status with each Branch at regular intervals to ensure appropriate Plan resource status.

Each Branch will have geographic/functional responsibility for the detection and suppression of fires that occur as a result of lightning activity, or are found incidentally by detection operations. The IC will create whatever ICS structure necessary to manage span of control and complexity. Branch will have control of all resources assigned to the respective area/function and will allocate those resources as needed to manage incident activity.

The Branch will request, assign, and status all resources needed for operations related to their respective area/function.

Branch will utilize an alpha numeric system to name and track all incidents that occur within an assigned Branch.

Possible Format: "Branch Name" – "Number"; Hurley Lightning 1, Piedra Lightning 1

Branch will notify the IC of any new incident with the Name, Legal Location & Lat Long, Geographic Description, and Size.

Branch will be responsible for the mapping and tracking of all incidents within the assigned area/function.