

CHAPTER 8500 GENERAL

The public makes many complex demands on the fire service. To meet these challenges and maintain fiscal balance, fire departments must cooperate to deliver the high service level the public expects. Cooperation with other agencies is vital since CDF is an extensive fire department and because of the following:

- There is intermingled SRA and federal land that is most efficiently protected by trading protection responsibilities.
- CDF can contract with local government for fire protection; the contract resources increase CDF's depth.
- Other state agencies can contract with CDF for fire protection services and avoid costly duplication.
- Well trained and organized CDF emergency workers can provide a variety of non-fire emergency services.

This chapter develops agreements for fire protection and other emergency services with federal, state, and local government entities.

AUTHORITY FOR COOPERATIVE FIRE SERVICES

GOVERNMENT CODE (GC)

Sections 6500-6514 - Joint Exercise of Powers

Enable a county to enter into contractual arrangements for fire protection or other purposed with any public agency, including the state and federal governments; this statute is commonly referred to as the "Joint Exercise of Powers Act."

Sections 18701-18709 - Blanketing Local Agency Employees Into State Service

Authorize the State Personnel Board (SPB) to prescribe, amend and repeal rules for the conduct of the Merit Civil Service System. Includes authorization for the SPB to arrange for transfer of functions to state and make determination of credits.

Section 24008 - County Fire Wardens

Provides that the board of supervisors may appoint a county fire warden and such assistants or deputy county fire wardens as it may consider necessary. The section outlines the duties of the county fire warden, including enforcement of rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Forestry and the State Fire Marshal.

Section 25210.51 - County Service Area May Contract With The Director

Provides authority whereby a county service area may contract with the Director for structural fire protection services.

Section 25639 - County May Make Fire Protection Studies With The State

States, "Any county may appropriate and expend, either within or without the County, money from the general fund of the county for cooperation with the State Board of Forestry, the United States Forest Service.