

## **COOPERATOR RAWS AND OTHER WEATHER NETWORKS**

**7814**

(July 2015)

In addition to CAL FIRE's extensive RAWs network there are additional weather stations that Units may find advantageous for weather observations and fire severity predictions. The Statewide RAWs network is comprised of State, Federal, Local Government, and other agency resources designed for use within the NFDRS system. It should be noted that not all weather stations are maintained to National Fire Danger Rating Standards (NFDRS) required for RAWs. All Fire Danger Rating must utilize RAWs that are designed and maintained as per [PMS 426-3 Interagency Wildland Fire Weather Station & Standards Guidelines](#).

It is imperative that the local Units accessing weather data for operational use consider the importance of weather station guidelines and data limitations.

## **FIRE AGENCY USE AND STANDARDS**

**7814.1**

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Using cooperating fire agencies RAWs networks may be beneficial and is encouraged. In many cases cooperator RAWs have historical data that have value to the local Unit. Care must be taken to ensure that cooperator RAWs are maintained in accordance with NFDRS standards. All Fire Danger Rating must utilize RAWs that are designed and maintained as per [PMS 426-3 Interagency Wildland Fire Weather Station & Standards Guidelines](#).

## **NON-FIRE AGENCY USE AND STANDARDS**

**7814.2**

(July 2015)

RAWs stations that are not owned by a fire agency may not report weather data in a format that is designed for use in FireFamily Plus for fire severity predictions. Care must be taken to ensure that cooperator RAWs are maintained in accordance with NFDRS standards. All Fire Danger Rating must utilize RAWs that are designed and maintained as per [PMS 426-3 Interagency Wildland Fire Weather Station & Standards Guidelines](#).

Extreme caution shall be exercised if using data from a RAWs that does not meet NFDRS standards or maintenance requirements, especially if data will be used for decision making that has a direct impact on firefighter safety.

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