



June 30th 2008

Executive Summary Nuevo/White Tanks Complex Wildland Fire

On June 26th Tubac Fire District was requested to support communications in support of the Nuevo/White Tanks Fire. At the time of the request the fire was a Type 3 incident with little communications support. Tubac Fire District deployed the communications vehicle with the STACS communications system. The assigned mission was to supply fire briefings and intelligence to Santa Cruz County Emergency Services, Pima County Emergency Services, and Arizona Department of Emergency Management. At the time of deployment there was a high risk to structures with notice to 200 citizens to be prepared to evacuate. In this incident STACS only provided data connectivity to the local incident management team and communication to the above mentioned agencies. One other task assigned to Tubac Fire was to monitor real time weather radar and satellite to keep the fire crews informed of dangerous thunderstorm activity that was present during this incident. A total of 38 messages were sent out and received to 59 recipients during the incident. Video and pictures were also sent through the STACS units to the requesting agencies. During the incident sophisticated topographical maps were used and sent out through STACS identifying current and past fire lines of the two fires. On June 28th the fire was reclassified to a Type 2 Fire and the new management team took over at 10am that morning. With the added communications resources that come in with a Type 2 team the communications resources provided by Tubac Fire District were no longer needed and at 4:30pm the Tubac Communications van and STACS was de-mobilized.

All assets of the communications van were available during this incident including VoIP telephone and radio interoperability. Even though these resources were not requested (only data) they were exercised each day during the incident to insure operational readiness if needed. Overall the STACS unit worked flawlessly for what it was tasked to do. The only identified negative in the after action report was that most responding agencies did not know the capabilities and if they had known the system could have been more effective in supporting the incident.

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