

Archie GoH Landfill Fire Fresno, California



Archie GoH Debris Fire Site Location Fresno, California



Situation

Construction & Demolition Debris Recycling Facility

- fire on main pile
- 4.9 acres of material
- 10 to 40 feet in height
- ~ 160,000 cubic yards
- industrial / low income residential community
- worst air quality in nation



Regulatory Authorities

- **Federal**

- EPA

- **State (California)**

- Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDF)

- Integrated Waste Management Board (IWMB)

- Office of Emergency Services (OES)

- Air Resources Board (ARB)

- **Local**

- City of Fresno Fire Department

- Air Pollution Control District

- Fresno County Environmental Health



Cooperating Agencies

Fresno City Fire

Fresno Police Department

US Environmental Protection Agency

California Integrated Waste Management Board

Fresno County Environmental Health

California Office of Emergency Services

California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

US Coast Guard

Regional Water Quality Control Board

National Weather Service

California Department of Health

California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

California Air Resources Board

Fresno County Sheriff

California Occupational Safety and Health Administration

City of Fresno Mayor's Office

City of Fresno City Council

Fresno County Health Office

City of Fresno Department of Public Works

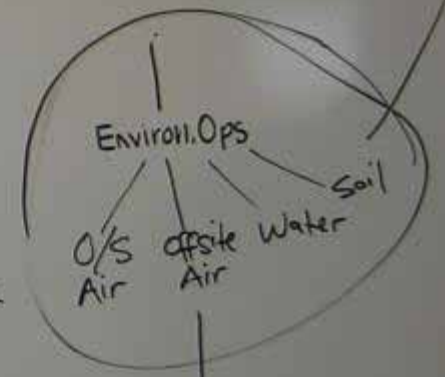
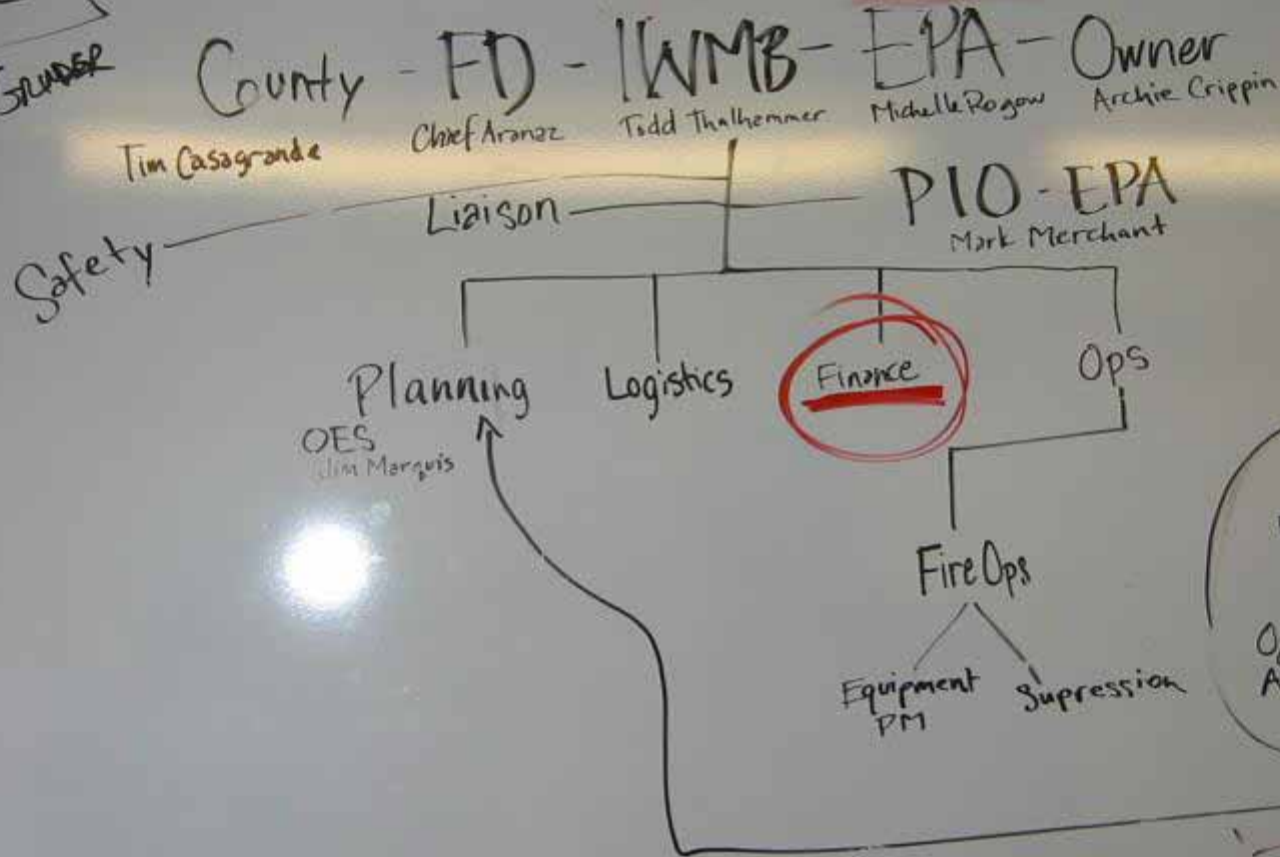
Fresno County Department of Public Works



January 15, 2003 Unified Command

Move EQ
SOIL
T&B GRADER

1-15-03



Initial Strategy

Control emissions and put the fire out !

- CIWMB to fund heavy equipment operations
- City of Fresno to supply fire fighters
- USEPA to provide air monitoring, health and safety support



Incident Command

Effective 1-17-03

UNIFIED COMMAND

JOEL ARANAZ, FRESNO FD, FRN
TIM CASAGRANDE, FRESNO COUNTY
MICHELLE ROGOW, US EPA

SAFETY

RAY BROWN, USCG

LIAISON

CLINT NICHOLS, FRN

INFORMATION

JIC
Federal, State, Local

State on Scene Coordinator

KURT LATIPOW, OES

OPERATIONS

DOUG HICKS, CDF

PLANNING

JIM MARQUIS, OES
Deputy
BILL BONDSHU, OES

LOGISTICS

GARY KARLE, CDF

FINANCE

WALT CHACON, CDF



Health & Environmental Assessment/Impacts

- **Conducted Air Sampling**
 - VOCs
 - SVOCs
 - Metals
 - Particulates
- **Air Monitoring**
 - Carbon Monoxide
 - VOCs
- **Weather and Air Quality data**
- **Waste water (Black Water Ops)**
- **Disposition of Wastes**

Incident Command

Effective 1-18-03

UNIFIED COMMAND
JOEL ARANAZ, FRESNO FD
TIM CASAGRANDE, FRESNO COUNTY
MICHELLE ROGOW, US EPA

SAFETY
RAY BROWN

LIAISON
CLINT NICHOLS

INFORMATION
JIC

OPERATIONS
DOUG HICKS

PLANNING
JIM MARQUIS
Deputy
Bill Bondshu

LOGISTICS
GARY KARLE

FINANCE
WALT CHACON
MIKE GREEN

ASST. SAFETY SITE
DUNCAN McANDREWS

OFF-SITE AIR MONITORING COORD.
TREVOR ANDERSON

COMM UNIT LEADER
CDF TBD

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP
MARTY SMITH

FIRE CONTROL GROUP
FRN DIVS TBD

SITUATION UNIT LEADER
CDF TBD

SUPPLY UNIT LEADER
CDF TBD

ON-SITE AIR MONITORING
CINDY McLEOD

HEAVY EQUIPMENT

MED UNIT LEADER
FRESNO EMS TBD

DECON
EPA TBD

FIRE SUPPRESSION

FACILITIES
CDF TBD

WATER CONTROL TECH. SPECIALIST
DALE ESSARY

Public Health Group

- **Formed by UC**
- **Consisted of**
 - EPA Toxicologist
 - State Toxicologist
 - State Health Specialist
 - State Health Response Coordinator
 - County Health Officer
 - EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
 - Air Pollution Control Officer
- **Assess data and disseminate to public**

Incident Command

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 21, 2003

UNIFIED COMMAND
 JOEL ARANAZ, FRESNO FD
 TIM CASAGRANDE, FRESNO COUNTY
 BRAD SHIPLEY, US EPA

SAFETY OFFICER
 RAY BROWN, USCG

LIAISON OFFICER
 CLINT NICHOLS, FRN

- AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES:**
- CA OES
 - KURT LATIP OW
 - CDF
 - LARRY GERMAN
 - CA INTEG. WASTE MGMT
 - TODD THALMER
 - FRESNO PD
 - GREG GARNER
 - SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY APCD
 - JOSE A. MARTINEZ

INFORMATION OFFICER
 JOINT INFORMATION CENTER (JIC)
 LOCAL, STATE, FEDERAL

PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP
 TECHNICAL SPECIALIST
 ADVISORS TO JIC

OPERATIONS SECTION CHIEF
 DOUG HICKS, CDF
 DEPUTY: FRN TBD

PLANNING SECTION CHIEF
 JM SMITH, CDF
 DEPUTY: JIM MARQUIS, OES

LOGISTICS SECTION CHIEF
 GARY KARLE, CDF
 DEPUTY: CIRILO MEDINA, FRN

FINANCE SECTION CHIEF
 WALT CHACON, CDF
 DEPUTY: MIKE GREEN, CDF

ASST. SAFETY OFFICER-SITE
 DUNCAN McANDREWS, USCG

SITUATION UNIT LEADER
 JO SH CHRISMAN, CDF

COMM UNIT LEADER
 JEFFREY PEMBERTON, CDF

SUPPLY UNIT LEADER
 DANIELLE RUBIDA, CDF

FACILITIES UNIT LEADER
 TOM HARRIS, CDF

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP
 MARTY SMITH, USCG

FIRE CONTROL GROUP
 DM'S, FRN

WATER SUPPLY GROUP
 DIVS, FRN

ON-SITE AIR MONITORING
 ERIC NELSON, RAD

OFF-SITE AIR MONITORING
 MIKE WARREN, OES

WATER CONTROL TECH. SPECIALIST
 DALE ESSARY, RWD

DECON MODULE
 FRN

HEAVY EQUIPMENT

FIRE SUPPRESSION



Suppression Techniques and Tactics



Heavy Equipment Operations



Williams arrives

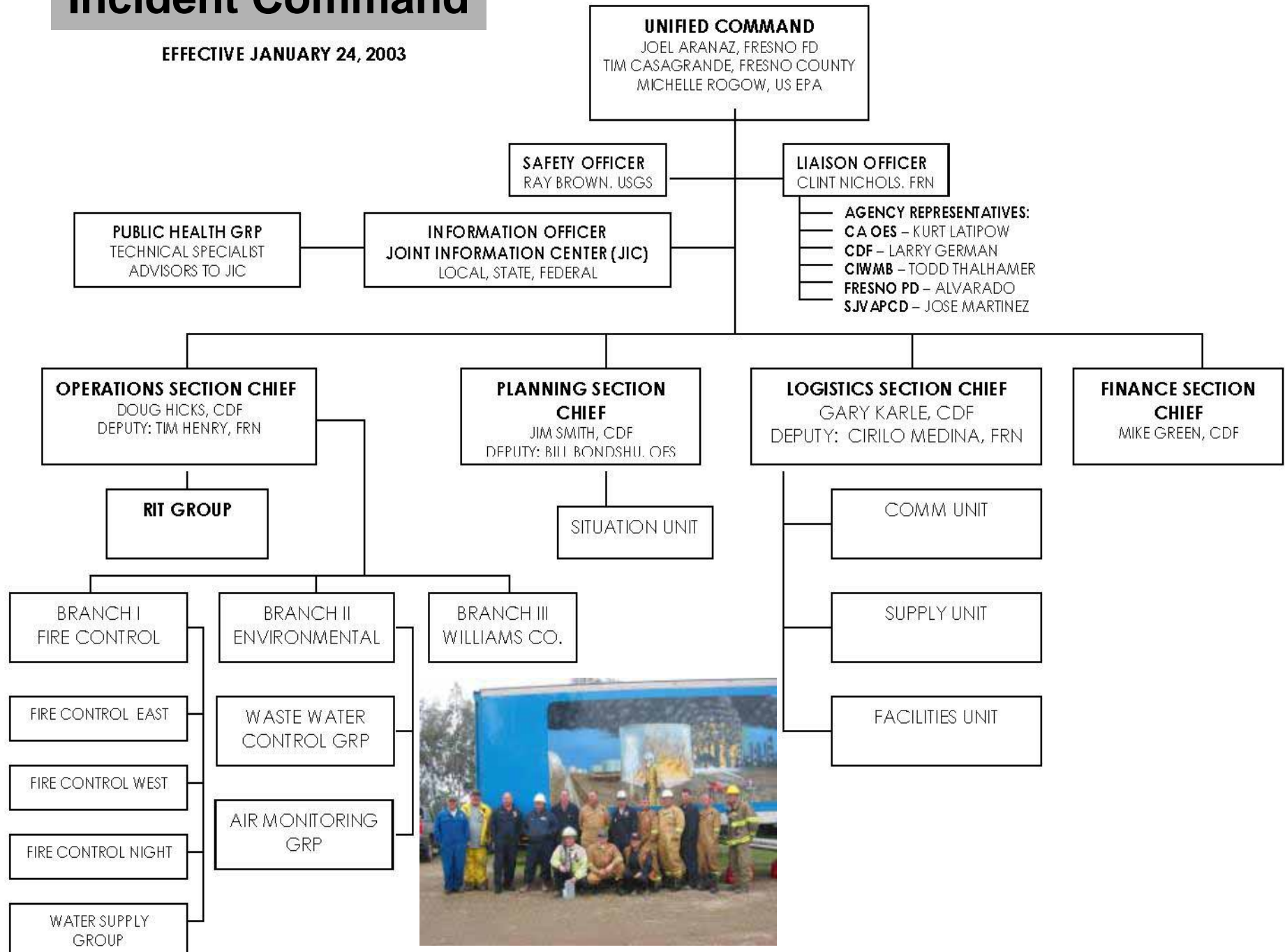


Set up and transition



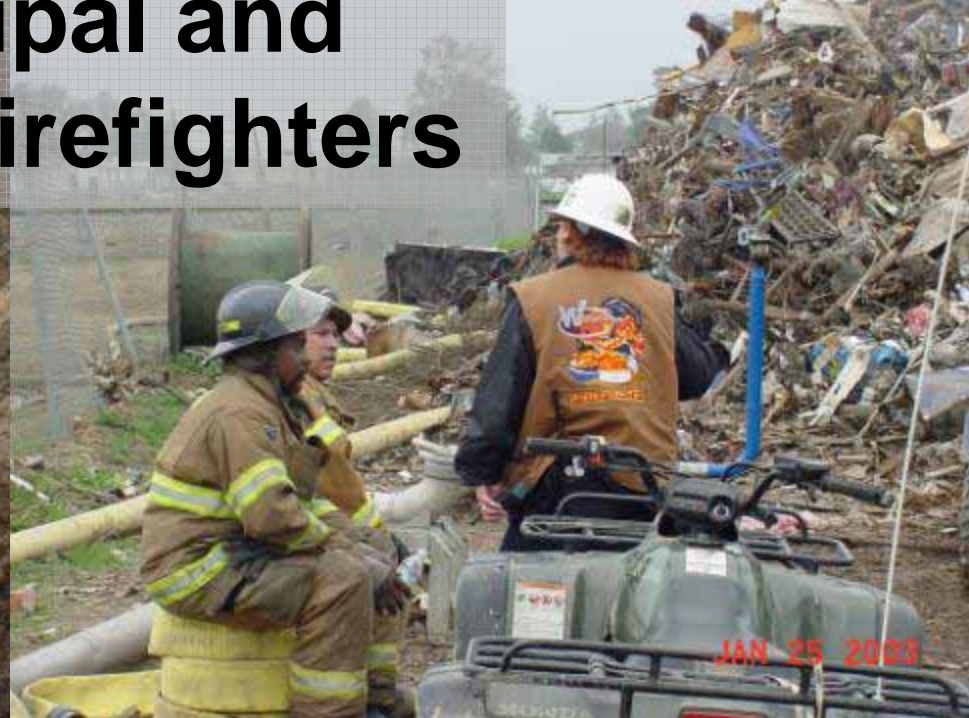
Incident Command

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 24, 2003





Integration of Municipal and Private Firefighters

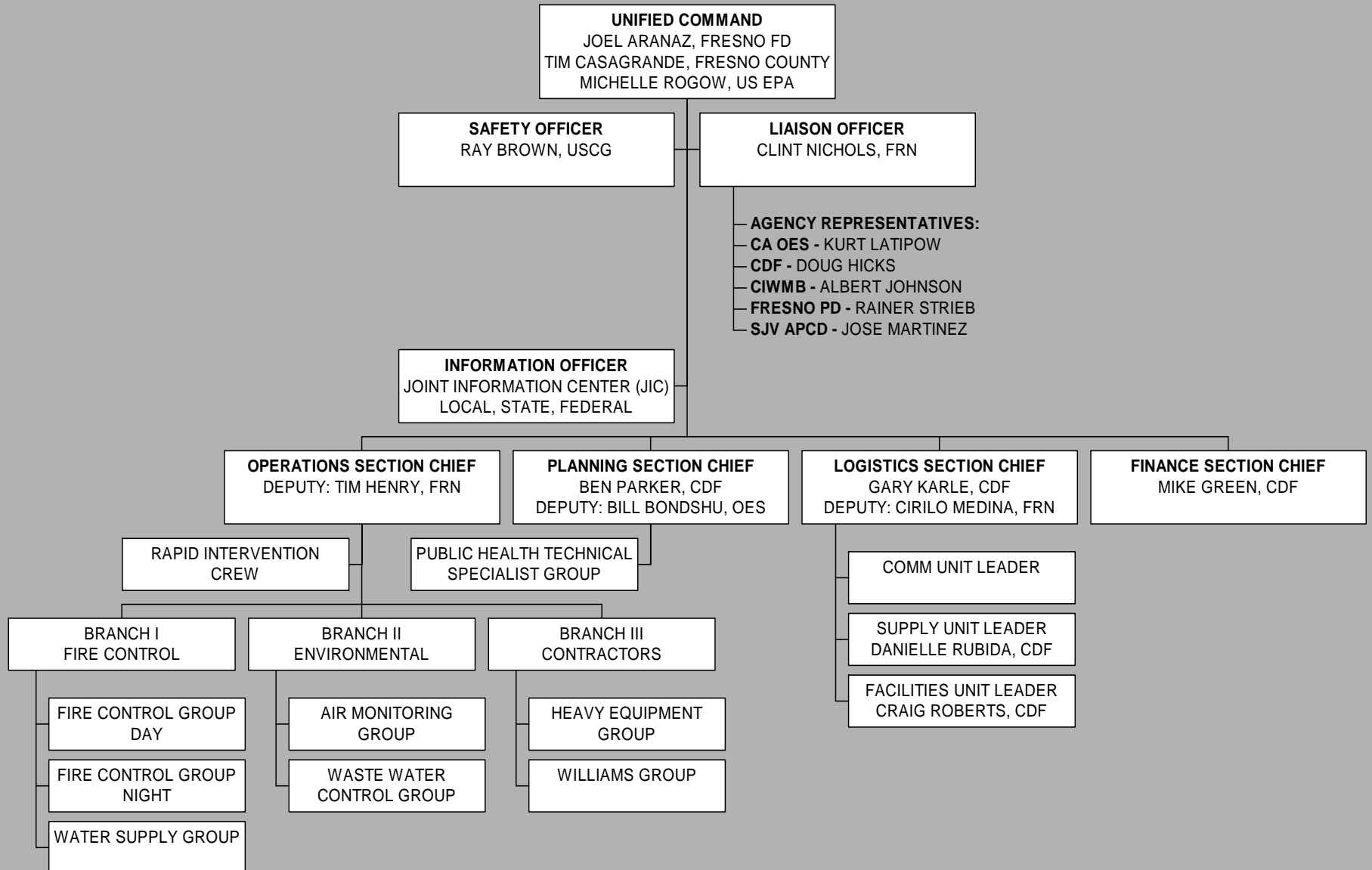


Working together



Incident Command

E F F E C T I V E F E B R U A R Y 3 , 2 0 0 3





February 10, 2003
Fire extinguished

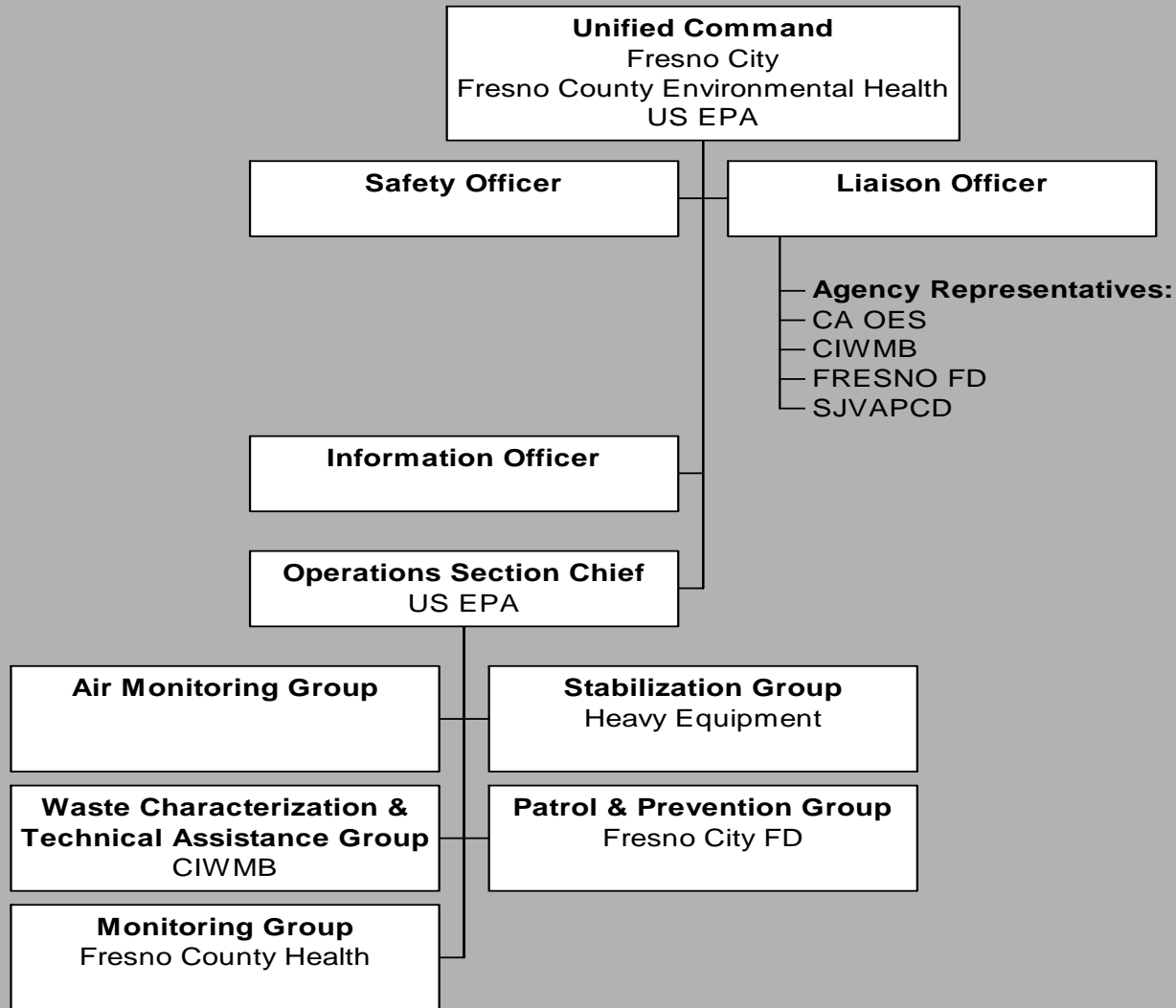


Phase I - Initial Response

- Fire discovered 1/11/03, burned from 1/11/03 - 2/10/03
- 26 days of fire fighting
- Equipment (up to):
 - 3- 345 excavators
 - 1 - 365 excavator
 - 2 - D-9 dozers
 - 1 - D-8 dozer
 - 2- rock trucks
 - 2 - vacuum trucks
 - 1 - front end loader
- Personnel (up to):
 - 20 Equipment operators/labor
 - 13 Williams Fire
 - 20 Fresno FD
 - 6 safety
 - 3 air sampling/monitoring techs
 - one hell of a JIC!
- Costs:
 - USEPA - \$1.27 million
 - CIWMB - \$680,000
 - City of Fresno - \$600,000

FEB 9 2003

Phase II – Stabilization

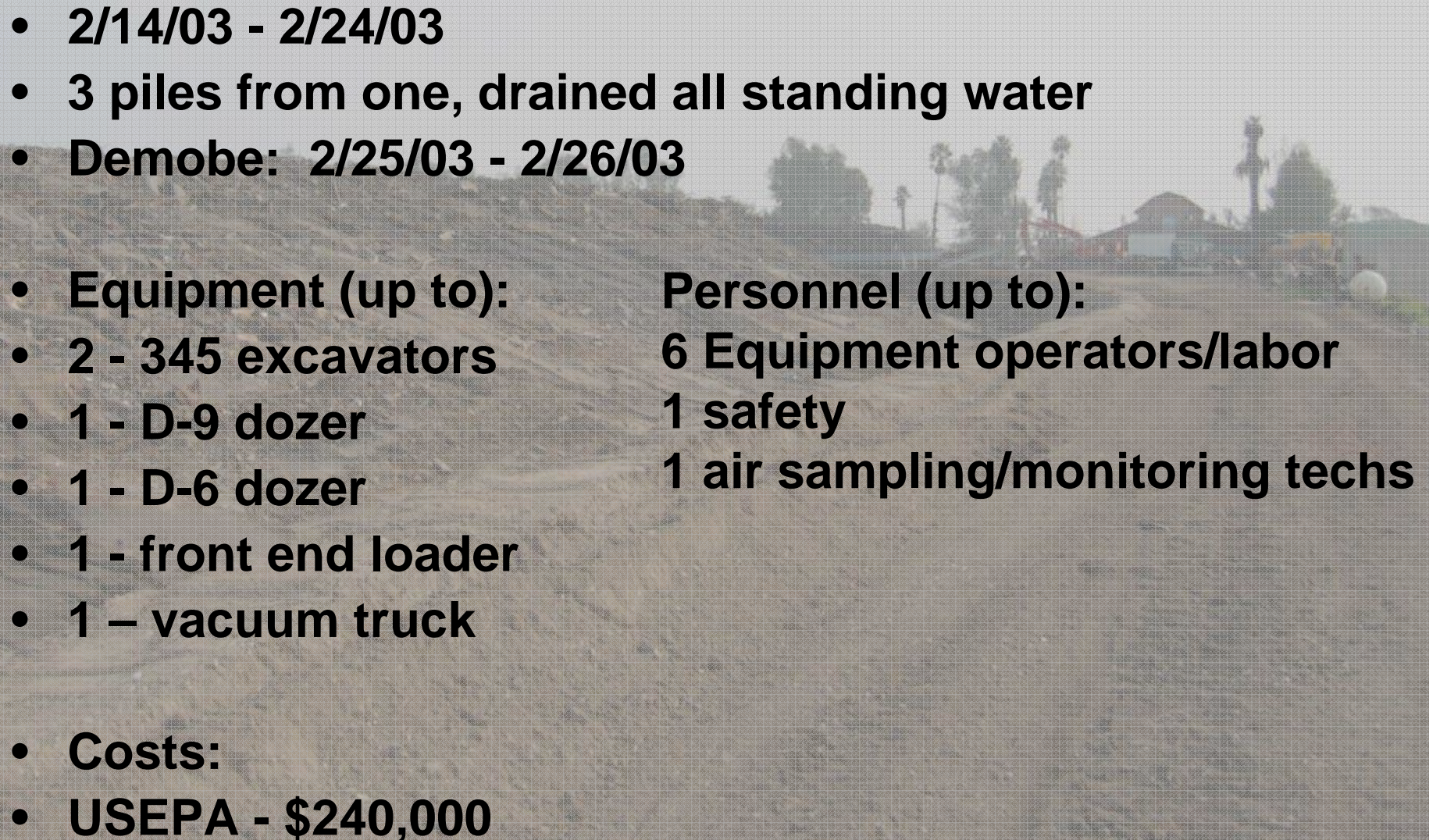




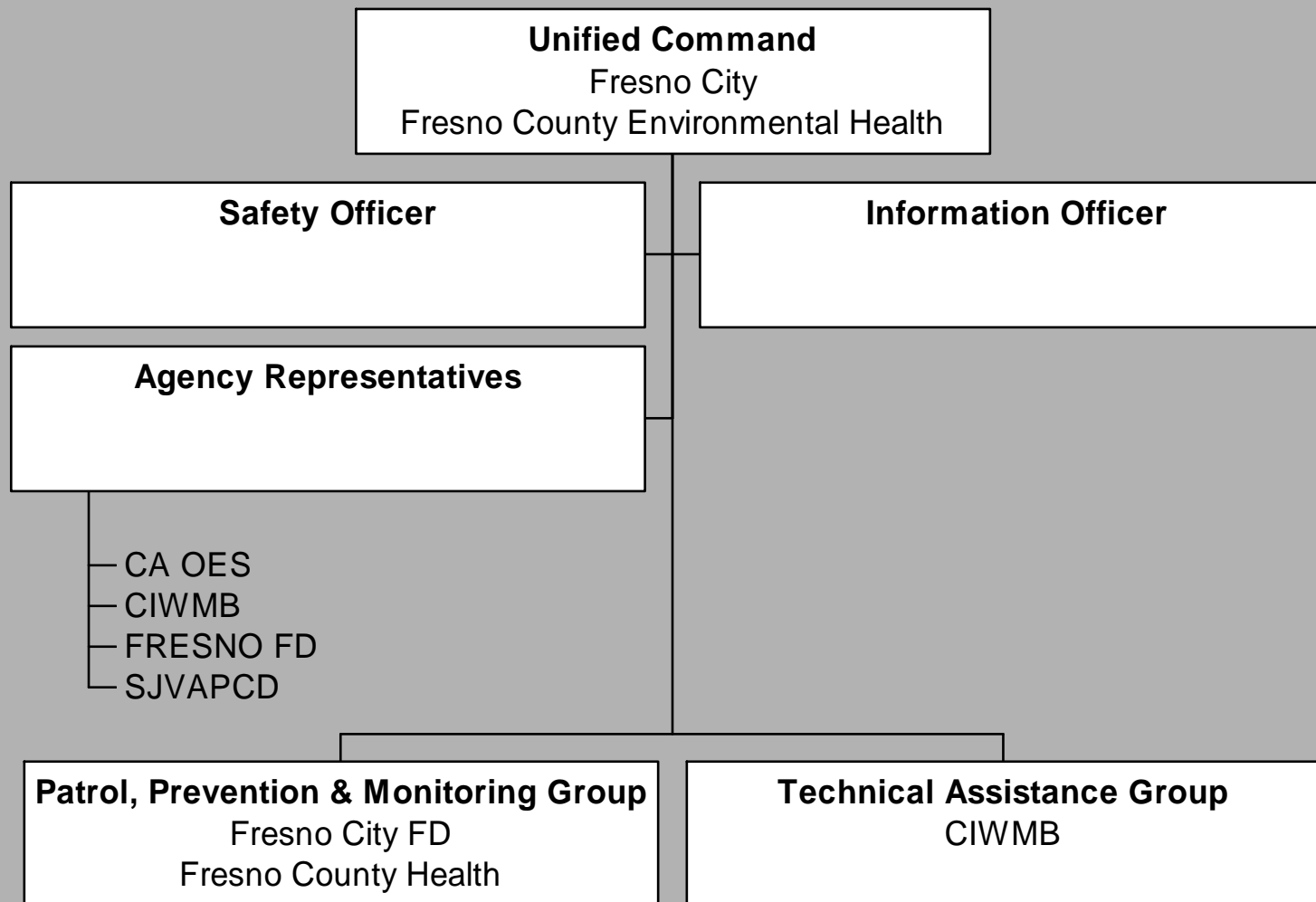
Phase II – Segregate, Stabilize, Survey and Sample

- **2/14/03 - 2/24/03**
 - **3 piles from one, drained all standing water**
 - **Demobe: 2/25/03 - 2/26/03**

 - **Equipment (up to):**
 - **2 - 345 excavators**
 - **1 - D-9 dozer**
 - **1 - D-6 dozer**
 - **1 - front end loader**
 - **1 – vacuum truck**
 - **Personnel (up to):**
 - **6 Equipment operators/labor**
 - **1 safety**
 - **1 air sampling/monitoring techs**

 - **Costs:**
 - **USEPA - \$240,000**
- 

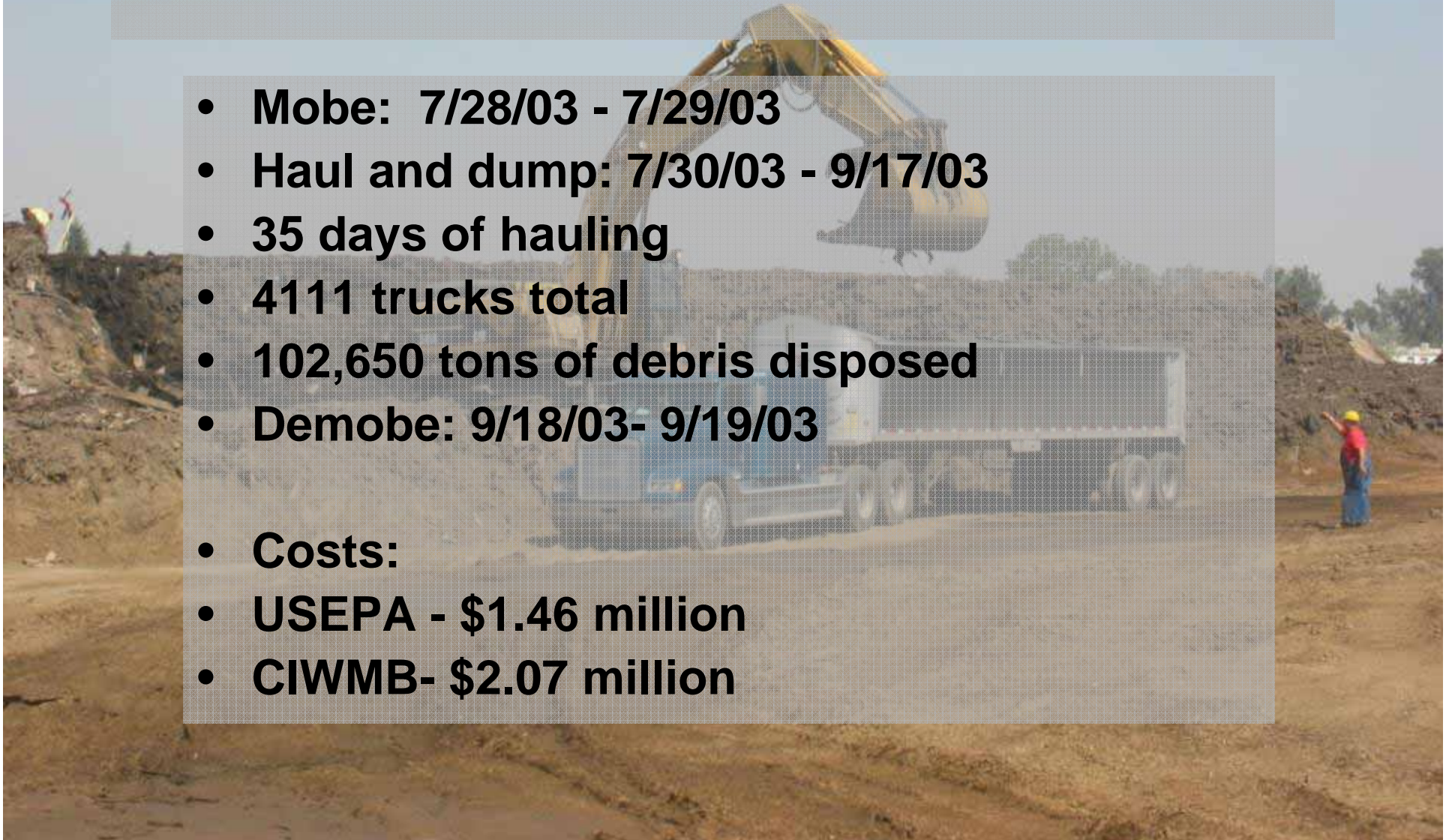
Phase III- Post Stabilization & Final Disposition



Phase III - Load, Haul and Dispose

- Mobe: 7/28/03 - 7/29/03
- Haul and dump: 7/30/03 - 9/17/03
- 35 days of hauling
- 4111 trucks total
- 102,650 tons of debris disposed
- Demobe: 9/18/03- 9/19/03

- Costs:
- USEPA - \$1.46 million
- CIWMB- \$2.07 million



Safety and Communications



Safety

SITE SAFETY PLAN

By
Name: Marks-Nelson Incident



- Site safety plan developed by USCG
- Audited by California OSHA
- Reviewed and signed off by all personnel



- Amended as needed with daily briefings
- Personal monitoring on workers





Joint Information Center (JIC)



Command Post



Politicians and Media



Samples discover hazards at fire

But the 18 chemicals are not at strong enough levels to harm the health of Fresnoans.

By Mark Grossi
The Fresno Bee

Authorities on Monday released a list of 18 potentially hazardous chemicals detected in air samples more than a week ago at the south-west Fresno junk fire.

But they repeated an announcement they made last week that the chemicals were not detected at levels high enough to trigger human health problems.

Only two chemicals — benzene and chloromethane — were mentioned in the

Blaze not a danger, EPA says

Chemicals in Fresno woodpile smoke not at harmful levels.

By Jen Fyffe
The Bee

Chemical plume wafting from the south-west Fresno junk fire is not a health hazard in the public eye.

Air samples at Archie Crisp near Marks are not enough to trigger a health warning.

"The issue is whether it's a hazard, as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency," said Jen Fyffe.

City officials the week of the fire said there is no air quality problem. "The worst going to get is Sunday and Monday of the blaze," said Fyffe.

Fire: Chemical levels ruled not harmful

Continued from Page A1
of Fresno West County for Economic Development, distributed the list in hopes of raising public awareness of fire-related health issues.

About 2,000 flies posted in English and Spanish were passed out. Another 500 in letters were distributed.

St. Trinity Church of God in Chant, Fresno, handed a stack of fliers to head pastor William Williams. "We want to make sure people know about it in the community," Kelley said. Williams, "Please tell some neighbors also."

Williams, who has grandchildren with severe asthma, nodded with understanding. "Thank you for this information. We need it," he said.



An excavator pulls away debris from the junk pile Tuesday. Firefighters are working day and night to put out the fire, which they hope is extinguish by 5 p.m. Friday.



Children would later receive a second session of water on a small, raised section of the site to create a public water supply.



Fire: Smoke remains a health concern

Fire: Smoke remains a health concern

Continued from Page A1
for the fire, which they hope to extinguish by 5 p.m. Friday.

IF YOU GO
A public meeting to discuss the fire is being held at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the Archie Crisp site. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, call 238-3333.



As the fire rages, it is feared that smoke will drift into the city. The fire is located in the south-west Fresno area, near the Archie Crisp site. The fire is located in the south-west Fresno area, near the Archie Crisp site. The fire is located in the south-west Fresno area, near the Archie Crisp site.

Fire: Hazardous air will hang around

Continued from Page A1
Baseball and track practice had begun, and soccer season is under way.

"When you can smell or taste the smoke in the air, you know it's bad," Fresno Unified spokeswoman Jill Marinello said.

The smell of smoke hanging in the air on Tuesday over many parts of Fresno. People in Clovis noticed it.

Light wind is moving the smoke around, said Evan Shipp, supervising meteorologist with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. People might smell it for a while, and then it moves to another part of the city.

width of a human hair. The measurement is now, and the district has only two monitoring sites for it this far.

The district's older monitors show a smaller increase in particles, but they did not show unhealthful air. But officials said they have warned people about smoke hazards from fires in the past, even though they have not had precise PM2.5 measurements.

Children, the elderly and people with sensitive lungs are the most vulnerable, health officials say. But people with healthy lungs can be affected as well.

At the site of the fire Tuesday, firefighters briefly worked to pull apart the 2- to 3-acre pile, which is part of Archie Crisp Excavation at Nielsen and Marks avenues. But crews stopped because they were not reaching the fire in the pile, officials said.

Aranas said California Industrial Waste Management officials may have a better approach today.

The fire began at 2 a.m. Saturday by spontaneous combustion. The decomposing wood, moisture and oxygen combined in just the right way to spark the fire.

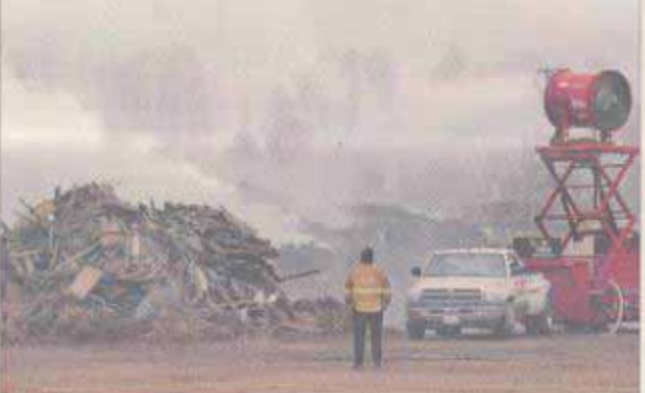
Burning pile contaminated

Two nearby residents have made numerous complaints to the city.

By Mark Grossi
and Pablo Lopez
The Fresno Bee

At a hazardous waste site, firefighters have found twisted metal, plastic, soldered copper and various unidentifiable parts — adding contamination to a porous ground.

The fire began at 2 a.m. Saturday by spontaneous combustion. The decomposing wood, moisture and oxygen combined in just the right way to spark the fire.



Fresno Fire Department Capt. Vic Bergatto watches Friday as a large fire smolders at the Archie Crisp Excavation site in Fresno. The fire is feared to release hazardous air into the city.



Lessons Learned

- **Notifications**
 - Local
 - State
 - Federal
- **Unified Command**
 - Training
 - Qualifications
 - Communication
- **Planning / exercise / workshops / drills**



Communication and Coordination!



