

Bob Roper Bio

Bob Roper grew up in Ventura, California and began his fire service career by joining the Ventura County Fire Protection District (VNC) as a volunteer firefighter in 1976. He became a full-time firefighter in 1980 and worked his way through all the ranks becoming the Fire Chief in 1998, retiring in 2012. During his career, Bob continued his formal education and became focused on the wildland fire problem. As Fire Chief of a Contract County, he became quite involved in state aid agreements and the state response system. He furthered his wildland policy knowledge by becoming the Chair of the International Association of Fire Chief's Wildland Fire Policy Committee. This forum required a global viewpoint of the nation's wildland fire problem and interaction with National Association of State Foresters and federal partners. Bob was part of the development team for the National Wildland Fire Cohesive Strategy. During his career and post-career, Bob speaks at 4 conferences: community groups, governmental entities (local, state & federal) and he has authored various trade journal articles. After his VNC career, Bob became the Nevada State Forester (NDF) in 2015. His primary assignment was to study, evaluate and make recommendations to the Director of Natural Resources. Following that assignment, he found his replacement and provided a seamless transition. Bob currently maintains his consulting practice as a Policy Advisor to the Western Fire Chiefs Association and volunteers as the Co-Chair of the CA Fire Safe Council.