

“MOBILE NET” PROCEDURE (e.g., FOREST FIRE EVACUATION)**EXPLANATION:**

This procedure applies to everyone - non hams and hams. Practice is critical. Neighborhoods need to participate and practice.

For Practice Drills, only Hams can use the Ham Frequencies. During an evacuation (escaping a deadly forest fire) NON HAMS AND HAMS will need to help out on the Ham Frequencies to SAVE LIFE.

Non Hams can practice the procedure on their Area CH 1 [non ham frequency). FOLLOW THE SER PROCEDURES. DON'T MAKE STUFF UP. COORDINATING MULTIPLE EMERGENCY REPORTS DURING A WILDFIRE EVACUATION, WHILE MOBILE, WILL BE DIFFICULT ENOUGH.

“Normally”, you have a Net Control Station, Fire Control, Lead, etc..., which is directing a Net (Ham and/or Area) from a Fixed location with good antennas & location.

However, during an emergency evacuation ordered by the Sheriff, we should expect that everyone may be evacuating AT THE SAME TIME (seeking to escape from the deadly fire), and no one may be available to be a formal Net Control (AT A FIXED LOCATION, ETC...).

Accordingly, it is critical that people practice proper radio procedure. If you are sitting on your backside and pretending that you will talk only when you have to, and you don't want to be “bothered” with practice (either as a Ham during the Ham nets, and/or during your Neighborhood Nets), then you will be a liability to both yourself and others. Neighborhoods can practice this procedure on Ch 1. But, EVERYONE MUST FOLLOW THE SAME PROCEDURE BECAUSE WHEN THE REAL DEAL HAPPENS, WE MUST HAVE FULL COORDINATION WITH EVERYONE. THUS, TIME TO GET WITH THE PROGRAM.

Hams are to use their FCC Call Signs for ID. Non Hams will use their Neighborhood Tacticals, which are to be in the format – example, “Village Foxtrot 1”; “Midway 1”, etc... . Each Area should have already set this up. If you haven't, then you need to do it now.

For illustration, assume an evacuation has been ordered by the Sheriff due to a raging wildfire. Your family was monitoring your Area / Neighborhood frequency and the SER Ham Frequencies, as you were loading the car. You are leaving your Neighborhood. Roads may be blocked, etc... . You approach Highway 44 and don't know where to go. You now ARE MONITORING 760 (Ch 10 for monitoring; Ch 55 for Transmit and monitoring) and/or 505 (Ch 13; Ch 58 for Transmit and monitoring) (also monitor other sources of information you may have). Once you have left your Area/Neighborhood, you should stop using your Area CH 1.

First, “LISTEN” DON'T JUST START TALKING!
FOR DRILLS YOU MUST STATE “DRILL” !

START of SCRIPTING PROCEDURE (on 760 and/or 505):

Any Station will say: **“MOBILE NET ACTIVATED 760”** (FOLLOW WITH YOUR STATION ID). [“SEVEN SIX ZERO” TELLS PEOPLE THE FREQ. YOU ARE ON].

THEN, any station with a Road Report to give, will say:

Example: **“Village Foxtrot 1 760”** [then pause, release the PTT and listen].

[Note: you say “Seven Six Zero” for Ch 55 (if that is what you are on) so people know which Freq. you are transmitting on. Hams should be scanning 760 and 505]

Someone may say Foxtrot 1 “go”, or you may not hear any response, or you may hear “stand by” because someone else is transmitting that you don’t hear.

When the frequency is clear, give your report.

Example: **“Village Foxtrot 1 Report:** My location is highway 44 west bound. Traffic is moving steady and slowly West bound towards Redding. Visibility 100 Yards, Smoke level moderate, no fire near road. End Report.

[pause, release PTT so any emergency traffic can come in].

Then say: **“NEXT ,”**

[Note: **THERE IS A PAUSE BETWEEN REPORTS SO ANY EMERGENCY TRAFFIC CAN GET IN**].

THEN, other stations come in and Identify with call sign suffix, or Area ID, as follows:

Example: **“Midway 1 760”. Village Foxtrot 7 760”, “Hayflat 4 760”, PDS 760**

“PDS is last part of FCC call sign)

Village Foxtrot 1 (the station last giving a report, picks a station, and would

say, for example; **“Midway 1, go”**

[note: again, the last station who just gave its report [in this case Village Foxtrot 1] has now “directed” or “handed off” to a station which it designated to give its report].

Midway 1 then gives his report, and says:

“MIDWAY 1, Report: My location is highway 44 at Black Butte Rd. West bound on Hwy 44. Traffic moving steady and slowly towards Redding. Black Butte Road (south bound) closed from Highway 44. Visibility 100 Yards, Smoke level moderate, no fire near road. End report.

[pause, release PTT so any emergency traffic can come in].

Then say: **“NEXT ,”**

If no one responds, then Midway 1, merely says “out”.

Also, if a station has finished its report, and is very busy (EG., ON A BURNING ROAD), the station may merely say – “end report – out”. Someone else can then come in and say “NEXT”

A station may say “Roger Report” to acknowledge that a report was heard.

There may be periods of silence, when no reports are being made.

And so, the procedure continues...

END OF MOBILE NET SCRIPTING

NOTES AND GUIDLINES:

1. If a station is able to find a safe location, and assume the position of Fire Control, then such station would direct the FIRE NET, and the MOBILE NET procedure would stop being used.

2. There may be periods of silence.

3. The FOLLOWING ARE NOT ALLOWED:

- NO Chit Chat.

- No asking about such things as – did you lock the door, was the house on fire, did you get the dogs, etc...

- Don't waste time giving reasons why you didn't report earlier, or that your radio wasn't working before, or it has been stressful, etc... **SUCH IS NOT RELEVANT AND YOU ARE PREVENTING OTHERS FROM REPORTING. MAKE YOUR REPORT AND THEN STOP TALKING.**

4. THIS MOBILE NET IS FOR **LIFE SAVING EVACUATION REPORTING** INFORMATION. IT IS TO HELP EVERYONE EVACUATE. THE SITUATION WILL BE DYNAMIC. EXAMPLE, A ROAD OPEN 10 MINUTES AGO, MAY NOW BE BLOCKED BY FIRE. PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW THAT THEY SHOULD AVOID USING THAT ROAD.

5. No Social platitudes. Thus, no saying “ nice to hear you are okay”, ETC... . People need life saving information.

6. Excess talking runs down the Repeater Battery. If smoke is preventing charging of the Repeater Batteries during a raging wildfire, wasted discussion may result in the Repeater going dead. Then the MOBILE NET will be on 505.

7. Use **Channel 40 or CH 5 for inter – car communications** (i.e., communications which are essential, but of a **non emergency nature** (both are Non Ham Frequencies). Proper radio procedures must be followed.

8. Coordination between 760 and 505 will be necessary as such are to be parallel nets to facilitate communications in rough terrain. You will not be able to reach the 760 repeater at all times. So, you may have to continue driving to a location with better propagation.

9. Transmit the Sheriff Evacuation Orders (routes etc...) **EXACTLY. NO OPINIONS, NO COMMENTARY, NO SPECULATION.**

10. Consideration should be made to setting up a Welfare Check Point. For example, at Holiday Market in Palo Cedro, Hams could set up a Table and use another Tactical Frequency (DO NOT USE 760 OR 505) for relay of family information so people can know the status of family members, etc... . Possibly this sub net could use Ch 14 (147.030 repeater) or Channel # 12 (147.165 repeater).

Sample Reports:

“...Village Foxtrot 1 Report: My location is highway 44 west bound. Traffic moving steady and slowly West bound towards Redding. Visibility 100 Yards, Smoke level moderate, no fire near road. End Report.”

“...K6PDS Report: My location - Wilson Hill Road South bound, Approx 3 miles south of Hwy 44 - Road Blocked by Fire both sides and fire on Road. Visibiliy 3 feet. Do NOT USE WILSON HILL. Do NOT USE WILSON HILL Returning to Hwy 44. I am safe at present. End Report, OUT.”

END