

August 15, 2019: SER Nets Status Report of Practice / Drill Net which involved the following:

- Tone and Announce Activation on SER Scan Plan Frequencies
- ACTIVATION MADE FOR SITUATION REPORTS AND QWA PROCEDURE.
(Format Tango 9A or Format Tango 9M and QWA procedure).
- Ham Net Infrastructure Activations:
 - Activated Alpha Control (HQ back up procedure – restricted)
 - Confirmed 160 Tango Charlie (HQ back up procedure – restricted)
 - Station assigned as “Monitor Cal Fire” Channel 20
– to report Divisional Impact Events only into Net.
- Neighborhood Nets activated. Neighborhoods conducted local Nets on their Neighborhood CH 1 Frequencies. There was one Inter-Area relay report from one Neighborhood Area to another Neighborhood Area (great job Immigrant Area and KQ6CS). All reports (including above) were in turn relayed to Ham Net Control using SER Q – Code system.
- SITREP (FMT TANGO 9A / 9M) RESULTS: all stations reported QXA except one station (DRILL) – no land line, no cell phone, 911 not working) (i.e., “... QXi D /b /c /d /y”)
- QWA PROCEDURE RESULTS: All Stations reported performing QWA procedure and reported **no suspect smoke or fires**. Thus, Brevity Fire Watches were done from from Dersch/44 Area to Hay Flat Area. QWK (Known fire reported for Dersch area – (Cottage incident) otherwise no suspect fires or smoke. i.e., “ QWK Cottage / Dersch area QWA, out”
- Drill Emergency Traffic Relayed to 911 through Ham Net to another Station which contacted 911 (drill only) (Emergency - plain English).
- Net Control Station went off line due to radio problem (not planned – went to another Radio room with roof antenna and came back on Frequency. During Absence, another station took over Net while NCS temporarily off line (Great job!)
- **32 station reports received by NCS (Hams and Neighborhood Areas). Reports ranged from Dersch/44 (to the WEST) all the way to Hay Flat Area (to the EAST) and North and South of such line.**

- Information on recent fires provided (QWK) (the Shingletown Fire on Late Wed Night (extinguished); and the Dersch area (QWK Cottage incident – Thursday).
- Information on Radio training class provided.
- Information as to SER radio programming change – Ch 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 to be transmit capable for HAMS only. HAMS only, call Nathan or DAR to have your radios updated (this way HAMS will not have to go to CH 55 etc...).
- All Station reports were mapped and plain English summary was provided as to the Ham and Neighborhood Area reports.
- Entire net (all of above) completed in approximately one-half hour.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED OUT. CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

LET'S GET THIS UP TO 80 STATION REPORTS (ALL AREAS). I KNOW MANY ARE STILL WORKING ON THEIR ANTENNAS, ETC... SPREAD THE WORD. WE ARE IN FIRE SEASON . EARLY DETECTION AND EARLY RESPONSE.

AND.... I “KNOW” AS YOU READ THIS YOUR **RADIOS ARE ON** – SCANNING THE PLAN 24/7.

AFTER ACTION REPORT:

- Thank you to W6CCR for relaying to the Shingletown Emergency Radio Net the comments from the Fire Department about our emergency radio system. The Fire Department official advised that they wanted to thank us for our communication efforts to prevent a fire in Shingletown.

-Need to have Back Up Station concurrently recording all reports in case NCS goes off line (otherwise, all report information is “lost”).

-Stations limit Transmit time to 15 seconds. At that time, release PTT for a moment to allow any emergency / priority traffic. Use Q Code System when appropriate. If plain English (e.g., Emergency / Priority) be BRIEF, CONCISE AND ACCURATE. When Giving Emergency Report, don't explain that you couldn't dial 911 – just Say “Emergency Traffic”. Our job is to pass the traffic efficiently and professionally. NCS is not going to be asking why you didn't use the phone. No discussion – get the message through.

-Plan ahead before as to what you are going to say. Don't hold PTT while you are gathering your thoughts. Such prevents emergency / priority traffic, runs battery down, etc...

- Speak clearly, and slow enough for Net Control and Back Up to RECORD your reports – but speak with a direct business purpose. Listen to Cal Fire – their communications are short and concise.

- The Village Area Alert Frequency Communications can be heard by the Starlite Area (both have same frequency allocation). Situation needs to be addressed so neither Area can hear each other – so both can conduct independent operations. Options include: lower power transmit / lower antenna / coordinated frequency re-allocation, etc... .

-All stations should be setting up emergency back-up power to run their emergency communications when the electricity goes off.

-Be prepared for SIMPLEX operations – that means good antennas with ability to reach distant locations. Remember – if a non Ham has an emergency, he/she can use the Ham frequencies. All should plan on emergency SIMPLEX (505 – CH 58) operations.

- Since the above Net, improvements have been made in the NCS Format Tango 8 rough mapping format to facilitate postings. There is a certain level of stress during this process. Thus, the Binocular image was placed in the script (it is not art). It is a visual signal to quickly help identify the Area involved. During posting process NCS caught error of having posted a report to the DERSCH Lookout instead of the DERSCH AREA. Same idea with the Neighborhood Areas being in LARGE PRINT.

-Additional Cal Fire Frequencies are to be added to Net Script (Format KILO 1) for Monitoring by designated stations, plus internet monitoring of “incident links” , etc... for intelligence gathering and reporting (if such is available). Station(s) with back-up power and satellite may be able to do this during a communications black out.

Thank you.

Nathan (K6PDS) 73
If you have questions? Call 474-3267