

May 31, 2014 EOC to EOC exercise

Purpose.

This and all future exercises will utilize District Nets to the extent they exist. All Fire Departments, City EOC's, County EOC's and others should check in to their District Net on the frequencies that they would use if there were an actual event. If your District Net is not activated then check in with your County EOC. If you cannot find a District Net or County Net to check in with then the HF Net Control can assist you. If you do not have HF capabilities then try to find someone on Vhf to check in with. If you cannot find anyone to contact you are always welcome to contact Camp Murray.

Voice messages for Camp Murray, other than from District Nets or County EOC's shall be directed through your District Net or County EOC. Net control on 3985.00 KHz is available to assist if your District Net or County EOC is unavailable. Please remember that we will be utilizing a **Directed Net** on 3985.0 KHz. If you cannot find us on 3985.0Khz try going down in frequency to see if we have moved to avoid interference. If we do move the net we will try not to go lower than 3970.0Khz.

Note: **All hf communication needs to go through Net Control.** For example, if you wish to contact Camp Murray you would contact Net Control and advise them you would like comms with Camp Murray. The Net Control will then direct you to call Camp Murray on this frequency or will direct you to make contact and move to another frequency. You would not call Camp Murray directly without first calling Net Control under a directed net. During past exercises there were still a few stations that were calling Camp Murray directly but it appears that this is happening less often. Our Net Control stations are instructed to pass along gentle reminders when this happens. Remember that we are trying to operate in the manner in which we wish to operate during a major even.

Exercise details

For this exercise we want you to assume that a major event is imminent that has the potential to disrupt normal power distribution systems. Power may go out or become entirely unstable. Emergency coordinators are asking that amateur radio teams activate their stations and exercise their plan for backup power and to test their radio gear to make sure that the systems are ready to operate on backup power.

If you are able to switch to battery backup or generator power then this would be a good time to test these systems. If your plan is to operate out of your car then this would be appropriate. If you are not able to do this then maybe you can check on the status of the backup systems such as when the systems were last exercised, how much running time on the generator or batteries, etc. If you rely on a computer is it on a UPS and how long will it run on it's battery? We ask that you pass along the results of your observations up your chain of command and let them know how ready you are to respond should the power go out. If you actually did switch to backup power please pass this information along as well as how long you actually ran on backup power. It might be interesting to turn off the lights to your station and work by flashlight to practice working with limited lighting. This would be a good time to check the flashlights that you keep in

your station for emergency evacuation. We ask that the results be passed to Camp Murray via the communication chain that you would use during an emergency.

When you send your message to Camp Murray we request that on the Subject line you start out with your tactical call, your message number, and then something pertaining to the message. It should look something like this:

Subject: My County, 001, Crowd status

If you are sending a message via 2m packet or by Pactor we ask that you format your message subject line in the same way described above.

The reason we are asking you to post your message in this manner is that we can sort by the subject line. When you call Camp Murray and ask if we have received your message we can more readily respond to your query. In the past it has been a daunting task to try and find a specific message. Digital messaging is very popular and we are attempting to find the most efficient way to work with it.

If you are running your own local exercise and wish to receive injects from Camp Murray, send the injects along with the suggested time to AA7ZV_1 @Yahoo.com prior to the exercise date.

Exercise Schedule

1. All stations are encouraged to activate by 10:00 AM local time. We will finish at noon. If your district or local group wishes to start earlier feel free to do so. When you are ready to secure we ask that you check out with your Net Control and advise them that you are leaving the net. **Checking out of the net is equally important as checking in.**
2. Anyone wishing to send a message to Camp Murray using Pactor 1, 2 or 3 can do so anytime during the exercise. The call sign we use is **W7EMD** and we monitor 3595.0 KHz center frequency using Airmail.
We will have Airmail available on 145.63 Mhz for those of you that use packet radio. We use the call sign **W7EMD**.
3. We would like to promote the use of the Winlink messaging system. We would like to receive a message from all EOC's that are able to utilize Winlink. Our Winlink address is **W7EMD (at) Winlink.org**. We are currently putting together a database of EOC's, their Winlink address and their call sign so sending us a message with the correct "subject" format will get this information to us.
4. If you want to know if your digital message was received we recommend that you use one of the voice means to contact us to get verification that the message was indeed received. We do attempt to acknowledge all digital messages to demonstrate receipt.
5. We will be not monitoring 60m but we will be glad to test this band. Please contact us to coordinate contacts on this band.
6. If you are going to contact Camp Murray on the W7AAO repeater you will find that Pierce County will be operating a formal net. Please check in with Net Control before trying to contact us. Our plan is to check in to their net and inform them if we are planning on leaving the frequency. If you have formal messages for us please let Pierce County know and they will have us move to a repeater of your choice. We are trying to keep this repeater open as a tactical repeater.

Voice Call Signs

We encourage the use of tactical call signs. When calling we prefer that you call us by "Camp Murray" rather than our call sign. Tactical call signs are encouraged but we would like to remind everyone to follow the FCC rules regarding using your assigned call every 10 minutes and at the end of an exchange.

Mission

The Training Mission Number for our 2014 quarterly exercises is 14-T-1073

Coordinating Methods

There will be four ways for District Nets and County EOC's to coordinate exercise activities with Camp Murray. Any of these means may be used interchangeably.

The first is via HF on 3985.0 KHz possibly going as low as 3970.0Khz

The second is the W7AAO Repeater 145.370 Mhz (PL 136.5)

The third is via the Grass Mt repeater on 53.87 Mhz output (-1.7 offset / PL 100.0 Hz).

The fourth is by telephone. 253.912.4995

Other Methods

We will also try to monitor 224.04, the AB7F repeater system, and if you are a SKYPE user we are W7EMD-1. We can also do Echolink on request.

Please send an email to AA7ZV_1@Yahoo.com prior to the exercise or call us on any radio frequency during the exercise to coordinate using other repeaters.

MARS

If you are a MARS liaison station please let Net Control know when checking into the net on 3985.0 KHz or let one of our vhf operators know when you check in with us. We will not be regularly monitoring any MARS repeaters but if you want us to contact you on them send an email to AA7ZVJ @Yahoo.com prior to the exercise.

Changes

Any updates to this plan will be posted at

http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/EOC_Communications_Wa. If you cannot locate answers to your questions, contact the Camp Murray RACES Station Manager via email at: AA7ZV_1@Yahoo.com.

