



“ CASCADE HORIZON”

(1,2)

ARRL WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION FALL SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST 2 OCTOBER, 2021 0930-1230 HOURS

SCOPE

THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE IVAN IS A FEW YEARS AWAY HOWEVER THAT PARTICULAR WEATHER EVENT LEFT AN INDELIBLE IMPRESSION ON MANY HERE IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA. MOST EVERYONE HAS HURRICANE IVAN MEMORIES AND THE IMPACT OF IVAN HAD A DEVASTATING EFFECT ON MANY OF OUR COMMUNITIES...WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA DOESN'T NORMALLY TAKE A DIRECT HIT FROM A HURRICANE BUT WE HAVE OFTEN DEALT WITH THE REMNANTS OF SUCH CLIMATIC POWERHOUSES.

WITH THAT IN MIND, THIS EXERCISE IS MEANT TO PREPARE FOR A LARGE SCALE WEATHER EVENT HAVING HEIGHTENED IMPACTS ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE NEED FOR SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS TO SERVED AGENCIES.

SERVED AGENCIES

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
U.S.ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
AMERICAN RED CROSS
PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SCENARIO-

- A STRONG TROPICAL DEPRESSION (973mb) HAS STALLED OVER WESTERN AND CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BRINGING (1) HEAVY RAINS IN EXCESS OF FIVE INCHES (2) WIDESPREAD FLOODING, (3) SUSTAINED WINDS OF THIRTY FIVE MPH WITH HIGHER GUSTS (4) A WIDE VARIETY OF DAMAGE TO INFRASTRUCTURE.
- MANY COUNTIES ARE REPORTING (1) FLOODING WITH ROADS AND BRIDGES

BEING WASHED OUT, (2) DOWNED UTILITY LINES WITH LOSS OF SERVICES (3) RESIDENTS NEEDING EMERGENCY SHELTER.

SERVED AGENCY SUPPORT

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AND THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ARE REQUESTING REPORTS REGARDING RAINFALL AMOUNTS AND WATERWAYS CONDITIONS.

PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY IS ACTIVATING THE AUXILIARY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (PEMA ACS) IN SUPPORT OF COUNTY OPERATIONS AND WILL BE TAKING REPORTS.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS WILL BE ACTIVATING EMERGENCY SHELTERS IN NEEDED AREAS AND REQUEST THAT SHELTER REPORTS BE SENT TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN PITTSBURGH.

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

1- ALL COUNTIES WILL HAVE THEIR SKYWARN NETS OPEN AND TAKE FIELD REPORTS FOR THE RESPECTIVE NWS OFFICES IN PITTSBURGH AND STATE COLLEGE.

2- ARES TEAMS WITH US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FACILITIES (FLOOD CONTROL OR LOCK AND DAM) IN THEIR OPERATIONAL AREAS WILL MAKE OBSERVATIONS AND PROVIDE REQUESTED REPORTS.

3- PEMA ACS WILL BE TAKING REPORTS IN SUPPORT OF COUNTY OPERATIONS

4- THE AMERICAN RED CROSS WILL NEED COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT FOR PROVIDING SHELTER REPORTS TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN PITTSBURGH.

COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

1-COMMUNICATIONS PLAN AT THE SECTION LEVEL WILL BE PER PROVIDED ICS-205 FORM.

2-COMMUNICATIONS PLAN AT THE COUNTY LEVEL WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNTY EMERGENCY COORDINATORS TO DEVELOP AND DISTRIBUTE AN ICS-205 FORM TO THEIR OPERATIONS TEAMS.

OPERATIONS

IN-COUNTY OPERATIONS WILL BE ON ESTABLISHED REPEATER AND SIMPLEX FREQUENCIES. (BE SURE TO ANNOUNCE "THIS IS A DRILL" AT REGULAR INTERVALS. IT IS ALSO A GOOD IDEA TO INFORM YOUR COUNTY EMA REGARDING YOUR EXERCISE.)

INTER-COUNTY OPERATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED BY CONTACTING NEIGHBORING COUNTIES VIA REPEATER OR COUNTY SIMPLEX FREQUENCIES.

RADIOGRAMS SHOULD BE USED FOR REPORTING WEATHER CONDITIONS WITH THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICES IN PITTSBURGH & STATE COLLEGE VIA K3KWH AND W3YA.

A.R.C. FORMS IN FLDIGI SHOULD BE USED FOR RELAYING INFORMATION TO THE RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS IN PITTSBURGH VIA W3SO.

RADIOGRAM MESSAGING SHOULD BE USED FOR REPORTING WATERWAYS CONDITIONS TO THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS VIA K3MJW.

TESTING 60 METER OPERABILITY AND PROPAGATION IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED FOR ALL PARTICIPATING COUNTIES VIA N3TIR.

PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ACS WILL BE ACTIVATED DURING THE EXERCISE TAKING REPORTS (CALL SIGN, LOCATION & BRIEF WEATHER STATEMENT)

(REGARDING ALL WATERWAY OBSERVATIONS---AT NO TIME IS IT NECESSARY TO MAKE WATERWAYS OBSERVATIONS FROM THE WATERS EDGE OR FROM USACE LOCK AND DAM PROPERTY--- PLEASE STAY CLEAR AND REPORT FROM A SAFE DISTANCE---NO EXCEPTIONS)

ACTIVITY REPORTING

MEASURING THE OVERALL SUCCESS AND LEARNING FROM THIS EXERCISE CAN ONLY BE DETERMINED WHEN THE REQUESTED REPORTS FROM ALL PARTICIPATING COUNTIES ARE COMPLETED AND SENT IN. COUNTY EMERGENCY COORDINATORS ARE ASKED TO COMPILE THE EXERCISE DATA AND FORWARD THEIR REPORTS TO THE SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITY REPORT FORM CAN BE FOUND ON THE ARRL W.PA. SECTION WEBSITE, LOOK UNDER W.PA. ARES THEN ARES FORMS. THE PSAR CAN BE USED FOR SKYWARN NET REPORTS AND EXERCISE & TRAINING REPORTS...PLEASE SUBMIT BOTH WITH YOUR S.E.T. LOG SHEET AND ICS-205 TO THE SECTION EC N3TIR BY OCTOBER 16TH.

SEND ALL STATION ACTIVITY REPORTS FOR EXERCISE RADIOGRAM TRAFFIC TO KB3IN FROM NOVEMBER 1-9 VIA THE W.PA. PHONE TRAFFIC NET HELD DAILY AT 5:30PM ON 3.918KHZ. (IN RADIOGRAM FORMAT)

IMPORTANT--- DO NOT DEVIATE FROM THE EXERCISE PLAN AS WE ALL NEED TO BE ON THE SAME PAGE WHEN PROVIDING VALUABLE EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS. THOSE WHO DEVIATE WEAKEN THE OVERALL SUPPORT CAPABILITIES PER THE EXPECTATIONS OF OUR SERVED AGENCIES IN OTHER WORDS - EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER, **DON'T** BE THE WEAK LINK.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING PARTICIPATION, OPERATIONS,ETC. CAN BE ADDRESSED BY DISTRICT EMERGENCY COORDINATORS.

THANK YOU ALL IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE W.PA.2021 FALL SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST "CASCADE HORIZON".

THANKS ALSO TO THOSE WHO ARE PROVIDING THEIR SERVICES WITH OPERATIONS ASSISTANCE.

REMEMBER- WE'RE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM WITH A COMMON GOAL AS WE WORK AND LEARN TOGETHER.

73 AND PRESS ON!

ATTACHMENTS

W.PA. 2021 FALL S.E.T. ICS-205 FORM
RADIOGRAM FORM
W.PA. S.E.T. LOG SHEET
