DCS Summer Communication Exercise August 22, 2020

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DCS Summer 2020 Communication Exercise has some different characteristics than past drills

Summer 2020 Exercise Characteristics

- Countywide communication via simplex
  - Assumes most DCS repeaters are down
- Operates from member homes, not LASD stations
  - …Within each DCS District
  - …Between DCS Districts and EOB
- New DCS experiences
  - Reporting Mercalli quake measurements
  - 440 MHz band use

Exercise objectives: Making us better prepared if all else fails

Summer 2020 Exercise Objectives

- Ensuring DCS communication coverage using simplex
  - Voice and NBEMS
- Ensure Districts can operate independently of LASD infrastructure
  - Districts identify best home net control / relay sites
  - Members know District / Countywide frequencies
- Introduce Mercalli earthquake reporting and K6CPT-4a
- Opportunity for earning DCS hours

Exercise structure: starts locally within Districts, then goes countywide

Summer 2020 Exercise Structure

- **0830 hours: A simulated earthquake of major magnitude has struck somewhere in Southern California**

- **0840-0915 hours: DCS members check in to their designated District net control station using simplex**

    1) **Report unit ID, location, and recalled Mercalli scale measure of July 5, 2019, Ridgecrest earthquake**

    2) **Contact adjacent DCS District if can't reach own**

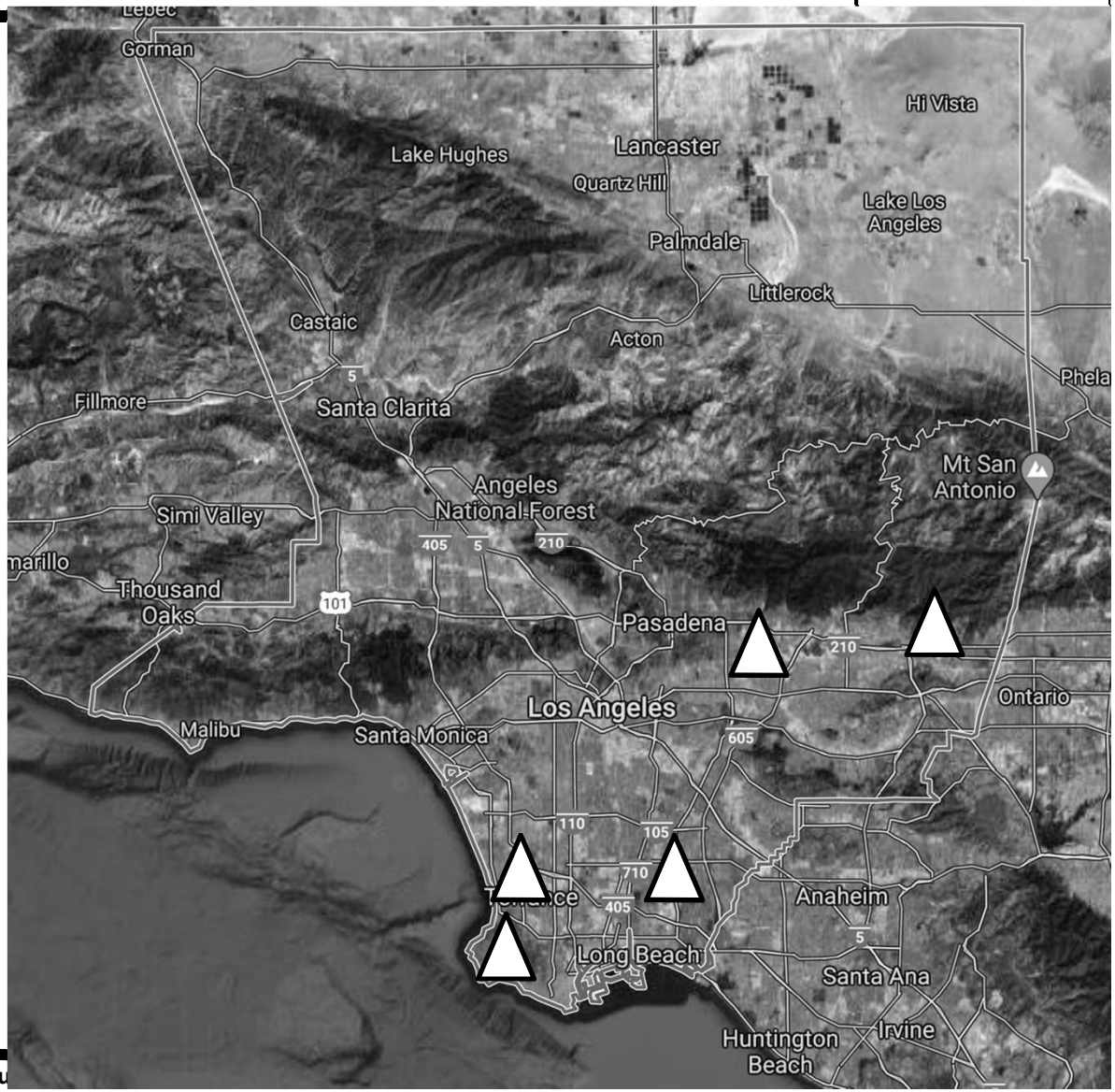
    3) **Standby for check in to "EOB", 0930-1015 hours**

About “EOB” in this exercise: It’s four sites for 2-meter NBEMS and one location for 440 voice

Summer Exercise “EOB” Locations

△ **NBEMS**
145.300 simplex
- **Staff 12**
- **Staff 50**
- **N-01**
- **W-31**

△ **K6CPT-4a**
- **Staff 60**
- **Staff 11**



Exercise structure (continued): starts locally within Districts, then goes countywide

Summer 2020 Exercise Structure

- **0915-0930 hours: District NCOs combines their member info and Mercalli reports into a message to "EOB"**
- **0930-1015 hours: District net control sites send NBEMS message via simplex on K6CPT-2 output (145.300 MHz)**
  - **Staff 12 is primary NBEMS station**
  - **Staff 50; N-01; and W-31 also on frequency to ensure signal coverage**
  - **Can't do NBEMS? Send it via voice on K6CPT-4a**

Exercise structure (continued): starts locally within Districts, then goes countywide

Summer 2020 Exercise Structure

- (Also) 0930-1015 hours: District members try voice check-in to "EOB" on K6CPT-4a (445.800 MHz, PL103.5)
    - Report unit ID and location
- 1015-1030 hours: Received NBEMS messages forwarded to "EOB" as a DCS-213 message
- 1030: End of exercise

How DCO's need to prepare in advance for this exercise

DCO advance work for Summer 2020 Exercise

- **Designate which of your members have best capability for simplex communication with other District members**
  - **Could be one station…or several**
  - **Best sites will also contact EOB, ideally w/ NBEMS**
- **Prepare your members for the August 22 exercise**
  - **Advise them it's happening, it's new, we need them**
  - **Make sure members have: DCS frequency plan, your District's main simplex frequency; Mercalli earthquake reporting scale (next page)**

Modified Mercalli Scale (1-10) reference page

Source: https://www.usgs.gov/media/images/modified-mercalli-intensity-scale

Intensity	Shaking	Description/Damage
I	Not felt	Not felt except by a very few under especially favorable conditions.
II	Weak	Felt only by a few persons at rest,especially on upper floors of buildings.
III	Weak	Felt quite noticeably by persons indoors, especially on upper floors of buildings. Many people do not recognize it as an earthquake. Standing motor cars may rock slightly. Vibrations similar to the passing of a truck. Duration estimated.
IV	Light	Felt indoors by many, outdoors by few during the day. At night, some awakened. Dishes, windows, doors disturbed; walls make cracking sound. Sensation like heavy truck striking building. Standing motor cars rocked noticeably.
V	Moderate	Felt by nearly everyone; many awakened. Some dishes, windows broken. Unstable objects overturned. Pendulum clocks may stop.
VI	Strong	Felt by all, many frightened. Some heavy furniture moved; a few instances of fallen plaster. Damage slight.
VII	Very strong	Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction; slight to moderate in well-built ordinary structures; considerable damage in poorly built or badly designed structures; some chimneys broken.
VIII	Severe	Damage slight in specially designed structures; considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse. Damage great in poorly built structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, columns, monuments, walls. Heavy furniture overturned.
IX	Violent	Damage considerable in specially designed structures; well-designed frame structures thrown out of plumb. Damage great in substantial buildings, with partial collapse. Buildings shifted off foundations.
X	Extreme	Some well-built wooden structures destroyed; most masonry and frame structures destroyed with foundations. Rails bent.

Thank you for participating in this vital exercise testing our communication capability