



**Homeland
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Date: APRIL 2013
To: Richard Thomas, COS, EXCOM, District Board/Staff
From: D11N DSO-OP, Commodore Gail L. Ramsey
Subject: District OPS Report/ Respectfully Submitted

HIGHLIGHTS:

OTO CORNER VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!

DTRAIN & GO TO WEBINAR & 2013 REQUIRED OPS WORKSHOPS

LESSONS LEARNED, WEARING A LIFE VEST

ALL FACILITY EXAMS, ICS CERTIFICATES ETC.

COMMENTS ON ORDER REQUESTS

REYR or REWK ???

OTO CORNER VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!

Spring has Sprung Shipmates!

The looming increase in air temperature, coupled with the typical lag in water temperature in our AOR brings the topic of PPE waivers front and center. From the RSS

Hypothermia Protective Equipment requirements and the waivers always spark great discussion. Notice the verbiage in the below section: "All CG Personnel". This means that the hypothermia PPE requirements do not normally apply to non-auxiliary members embarked onboard your facility. Those guests should be outfitted in serviceable Type III's. They are not...repeat...ARE NOT required Anti-Exposure coveralls or dry suits. I know this has been a sore point in the past with the multitude of extra personnel that are sometimes assigned to your facility for things like air shows or Fleet Week. I will work with SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO and GROUP HUMBOLT BAY to ensure that scheduled passengers bring PPE with them. The burden of outfitting scheduled passengers should not fall on you, the volunteer lifesaver. Victims recovered during SAR are also exempt from the carriage requirements. Have them don a serviceable PFD if one is available, otherwise get them to the beach as quickly and safely as possible. DO NOT take off your PPE to give to them.

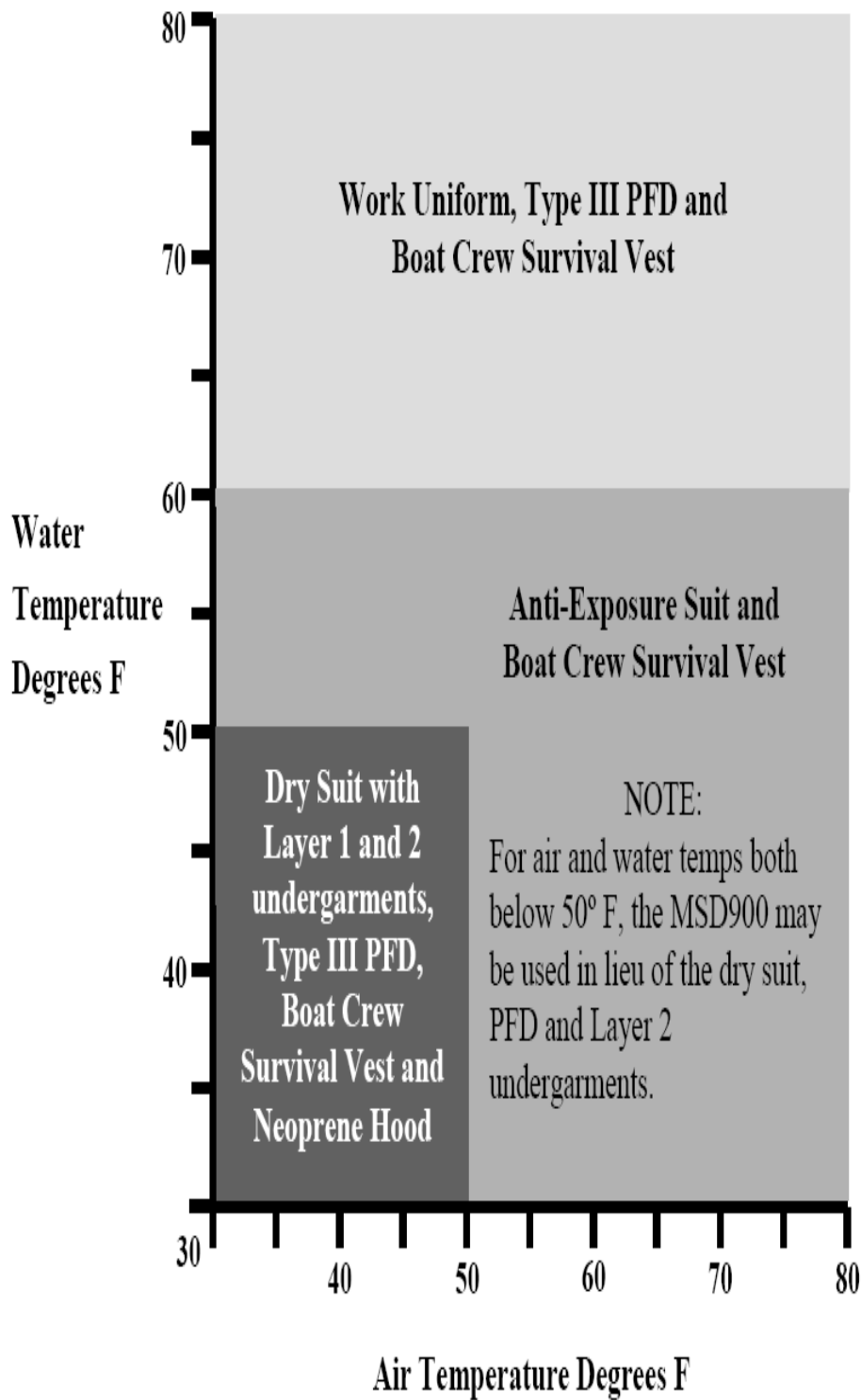


Figure 3-1: 50/50 Box

All CG personnel that operate in or are carried by shore or cutter based boats shall wear hypothermia protection and survival equipment indicated in the table (also referred to as the “50/50 box”) above. The table reflects the

*****Very Important*****

SECTOR San Francisco recently modified the procedures for requesting PPE waivers within their Area of Responsibility. If SECSF is your Order-Issuing Authority, the following applies to you:

1. If the AUX patrol is within a Station's AOR, the CO/OIC has the responsibility and authority for either granting or denying the waiver.
2. If the AUX patrol is outside of a Station's AOR, then the responsibility and authority for waiver oversight is with LCDR Vanskike, the Enforcement Chief at Sector San Francisco. AUX should contact the Command Center @ 415.399.3547 for waivers outside Stations' AORs. The Command Center will then conference in LCDR Vanskike for the waiver oversight. This way if LCDR Vanskike is unavailable, the SCC can move forward and contact CDR Montoro for the waiver, and so on and so forth.

When calling the Station or LCDR Vanskike please provide this information:

- a. Your Name and Facility Name/Number
- b. Your intended route and OPAREA
- c. Current Air Temperature
- d. Current Water Temperature
- e. Number of crew
- f. What PPE you are requesting be waived

3. If PPE is waived, as per the excerpt of the Rescue and Survival Systems Manual attached, it shall still be carried with you in case conditions considered for granting the waiver are exceeded and the need for the waived PPE becomes apparent

4. Please note that each Station's Area of Responsibility (AOR) is specified in their respective unit Organization Manual. The AOR may or may not include the many inland lakes you patrol. I strongly advise SO-OP's to initiate a conversation with your local station to determine which lakes might fall into their AOR. More likely than not, Lakes will fall into Sector's AOR but check and see. DIRAUX does not determine that, OIA does.

5. Also note that many of the CO/OIC's might be very reluctant to grant waivers to crews they have not met or that operate equipment they may be unfamiliar with. As a former OIC, I can tell you that I did not take granting waivers lightly because in addition to putting my crews at greater risk, I was also exposing myself to a huge amount of liability. I cannot overstate the benefit of maintaining a good relationship with the station you operate with. The better they know you, your equipment, and your needs, the more comfortable he/she may be issuing the waiver.

6. This issue is a key factor in the current need to ensure the PPE we use is serviceable and being properly accounted for and maintained. I'm speaking with the CO/OIC's and assuring them that the flotillas I have inspected are in step with the program. That helps towards raising their comfort levels.

7. Coxswains that patrol within GROUP HUMBOLDT BAY's AOR shall continue to adhere to their PPE waiver policy.

8. A member recently pointed out that the AUXPAT specialty course erroneously states that:

"...If the controlling Coast Guard unit cannot be contacted, the Auxiliary coxswain may issue the waiver."

This statement is not in keeping with the policy stated in the AUXOPS Manual or the RSS Manual. Coxswains operating under orders within D11N are prohibited from waiving hypothermia protective equipment themselves. That authority lies solely with the OIA as specified by them.

Thus far, my PPE inspection/enrollment visits to each Flotilla have gone very well. Each visit I have brought back a couple of pieces of unserviceable gear, which is a good thing. I'm always happy to entertain questions you may have about the program, so please don't hesitate to hit me up via email.

On another note...OPTREX season is starting. I look forward to meeting up with y'all on the water. Study beforehand and come prepared to be challenged.

V/R,

BOSN J

DTRAIN & GO TO WEBINAR & REQUIRED ANNUAL WORKSHOPS

A First!!!! The "WEBINAR" capability for the Sunday morning DTRAIN OPS Workshop presentations came together at the last minute. But, thanks to Commodore Mike Maddox many D11N members signed on and will get credit for the workshops they attended. The WEBINAR report that COMO Mike receives shows the time the member signed on and how long they attended the workshops.

Jimmin Chan has posted the District Ops and TCT refresher slides, as well as the AOM intro session, on our DISTRICT WEB at the Ops webpage at:

<http://ops.d11nuscgaux.info/operations.html>

Also are included links to the National TCT files.

WEARING A LIFE VEST – PRICELESS!

By Richard Saber...

Hey, this can't be happening! I am an Auxiliarist whose entire life has been structured around Safety, on land, sea and in the air. I preach safe practices, had just held two major "man overboard modules" for premier Yacht Clubs. Like many of us, the Safety mantra is our way of life.

Two years ago, enroute solo, to lead around fifty fellow AUX shore side for S.F. Fleet Week, I fell off my power boat in the middle of San Francisco Bay. Were I not wearing my auto-inflatable PFD, I would not be writing this. The weather was benign, cloudless, no wind, no current....and no boat traffic anywhere near. Whipping out my Iphone, I found it as useless for rescue as an anchor in my situation. Floating for thirty long minutes, I had plenty of time to muddle over my predicament and now often share in hopes of motivating others to wear a PFD religiously, when boating. What was I doing? Nothing more than planning ahead, setting a mid-line in prep for docking. Leaning over, on this calm water, my upper body weight dipped one bubble over center, and in the wink of an eye I was in the water watching my proud vessel pull away at 5 kts. Had I equipped myself with mini-flares, mirror or waterproof VHF, rescue would have been imminent. These items are now part of my PFD. Another thought also struck home-had I slowed to stop and taken the engine out of gear, I likely could have self rescued myself through pure adrenaline. My boat continued on for an hour, colliding with an immovable pier to the tune of 25K. Worse, my pride was hurt as I shared this embarrassing story with my Flotilla that very night at our monthly meeting. You can never be too safe! Wear a PFD!

ALL FACILITY EXAMS, ICS CERTIFICATES ETC.

Either mail or email in all forms/photos/tests to DIRAUX, not both. The office only needs the information once. Thank you all for trying so hard to make certain the office receives it but if received twice then it may get

entered twice and the time finding out the information has already been entered could be spent elsewhere. Thank you. A reminder of the proper email of DIRAUX: D11-SMB-D11AUX-Northern@USCG.MIL Please place in the subject line the purpose of the email and a member number if applicable.

COMMENT BLOCKS ON ORDER REQUESTS:

A reminder for you to share with your OIA's and Auxiliary. Please ensure that neither the Auxiliary or an OIA is NOT putting CG sensitive OPSEC information in the comments block of any POMS/AOM system when requesting/completing orders. The systems are not secure and maybe subject to compromise with the appropriate skilled computer hacker.

Example of what not to write: CG Aux 4321 working/training with CGC NEVERSAIL from 0900 TO 1200 in the vicinity of Submarine Point.

REYR or REWK ???

None of the Patrol Area Coordinators (PACs) have anything to do with AUXDATA and qualifications certifications. That is always a function of the IS chain and of DIRAUX verification. POMS, of course, gets it's updates daily through what is in AUXDATA.

If any member gets into REYR/REWK status, they have to initiate all the actions to get out of it. That means 1) complete whatever is missing and ensure the paperwork for that is submitted (e.g., workshop attendance sheet, which was done at some point), and 2) fill out and properly submit the MT-3 form as noted in many past District OPS reports, OPS workshops, etc., and available on the District forms web site (I don't know if that was done): <http://resource.d11nuscgaux.info/info/downloads.html>

Until all those forms are properly submitted through IS and DIRAUX and entered into AUXDATA, etc., POMS or when on line AUXDATA ORDER MANGEMENT SYSTEM (AOM) will not know about it.

Thus, you need to ensure all the forms were sent into DIRAUX and IS officer in a timely manner and entered. That all takes lead time, plus at least one more day then for POMS or AOM to pick it up. **Better yet, avoid REYR/REWK!**

2013 OPERATIONAL HOURS AS OF MAR 2013

Mission Hours as values		11N R - Div 01	11N R - Div 03	11N R - Div 04	11N R - Div 05	11N R - Div 06	11N R - Div 08	11N R - Div 11	11N R - Div 12	Sector San Francisco
AUXMP - Marine Patrols (01a,01b,02,03,22a,54a,55a)	OPS	135.10	44.50	28.50	304.40	29.20	89.70	88.60	15.10	735.10
	U/W - Underway	135.10	44.50	28.50	304.40	29.20	89.70	88.60	15.10	735.10
SAR - Search And Rescue (23,24)	OPS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	6.00
	U/W - Underway	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	6.00
All Missions		135.10	44.50	28.50	304.40	29.20	95.70	88.60	15.10	741.10

OPS CALENDAR

For flyers, regarding these events please go to the District Calendar

OPERATIONS EVENT CALENDAR

AS OF: 26 March 2013

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT	LOCATION AND POINT OF CONTACT
APR 7	DIV 4	OPTREX	REDWOOD CITY CONTACT DAVE NAUMANN 408-249-2983
APR 13	DIV 5	OPTREX	STATION VALLEJO CURTIS HAN 707-965-3836
APR 25-28	FLT 39	OPTREX	ANTLERS RESORT CONTACT CARL PIERCE 530-949-8513
APR 27-28	DIV 10	TRAIN NO QEs	LAKE KAWEAH ROD ROLLINS 559-301-4444
MAY 4	DIV 1	OPTREX	BERKELEY MARINA STEVE SALMON 510-295-9716
MAY 31ST/ JUN1ST	FLT 8-8	OPTREX	BRAITOS MARINA CLEAR LAKE BRUCE ROGERSON 707-813-1561
JUNE 22/23 RD	DIV 12	OPTREX	COAST GUARD ISL GEORGE PROWS caseyct@pacbell.net
AUG 3	DIV 11	OPTREX	LAKE TAHOE DEE DEE KINCADE 775-831-7192
AUG 9-10	DIV 7	OPTREX	JORDANELLE STATE PARK
SEPT 6	DIV 10	OPTREX	MILLERTON LAKE ROD ROLLINS svalleyrod@aol.com
SEPT 14	DIV 11	OPTREX	LAKE TAHOE DEE DEE KINCADE 775-831-7192
OCT 4,5,6	FLT 5-5	OPTREX	BODEGA BAY WILL SUMNER 707-763-1565
OCT, 26, 27	FLT 3-10	OPTREX	DELTA DEAN LACHPELLE 916-686-6065

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Ramsey, DSO-OP

