



**Homeland
Security**

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

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



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

OTO CORNER, IMPORTANT INFO!!

BUSY YEAR FOR THE QUALIFICATION EXAMINERS (QEs)

DIRAUX STAFF, HOURS, EMAIL, PHONE NUMBERS

REQUESTS FOR AUX FACILITIES

REMINDERS: LAND MOBILES, SEQUESTRATION, PLEASE REVIEW

EVENT POLICIES, WHEN A QE IS ON BOARD

AMERICA'S CUP (AC) AND ADDITIONAL SUMMER ACTIVITIES

AUXINFO UNDERWAY REPORT JAN TO JUNE 2013

OPS CURRENCY TRAINING & PAST CAPTAIN'S TRAINING FAIR

OPS CALENDAR

PHOTOS WANTED

OTO CORNER:

Greetings from Monterey shipmates...I'm still here.

I will be back to my full time OTO duties on 01JUL13. I plan on immediately getting back out on the road to finish off the PPE Program Implementation visits. I have two critical issues dealing with PPE that need to be discussed.

#1: Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) registration:

Over the course of the PPE implementation visits, I have taken about twenty PLB's out of service. Many of these were easily repaired and ready to be placed back into service. Unfortunately, we've hit a huge snag with the registration. Because many of you weren't given clear guidance when your PLB was issued (our fault) the beacons were registered in a manner that only the operator can make any changes to the account. This means I have several PLB's at DIRAUX that cannot be used because the operators passed away or they could not remember the password they used to register. The second issue arises when I try to contact NOAA and change the registration. NOAA guards the registration closely, if you did not indicate on your registration that your facility was a USCG AUX facility NOAA won't allow me to change any registration info. This means I have to wait for a senior supervisor at NOAA to manually change their system...to date I've been waiting for a week for one beacon.

Here's what I need you to do:

1. Access the following website: <https://beaconregistration.noaa.gov/rgdb/>

2. Click “Access Beacon Registrations” if you remember your password. Click on “Forgot Password” if you forgot your password. If you are prompted to change your password, please change it to ***D11auxnorthern*** the capital “D” and the number “11” are important.
3. If you didn’t have to change your password at step #2, please do so: ***D11auxnorthern*** This allows DIRAUX access to your beacon registration in the event we need to make changes to the account.
4. Go into the beacon information and make the following changes:
 - For Vessel Name, put USCGAUX, followed by your PPE ID number. For example: USCGAUXJAM1234. Remove your vessel’s name from the registration.
 - Change the Primary 24-Hour contact number to the appropriate SECTOR/GROUP command center 24/7 number.
 - The Secondary number can be one of your choosing.
5. Save the information. Print off a copy of the updated registration sheet and scan it or snail mail it to DIRAUX for my records.

These changes should alleviate the issues I’m seeing with the PLB’s. There’s been some discussion about changing the way we issue PLB’s; issuing them to the facility owners, vice the coxswain. This change would raise some issues with the wording of the Maintenance Procedure Card for PLB/Survival Vest Build-up and would require me to request permission from HQ to deviate. So, I’m holding off on that for the time being. I’d like you opinions on that suggested change.

#2 PPE Issuance for Trainees and members interested in “trying out” Boat OPS

DIRAUX is funded by HQ for PPE. The dollar amount is based on the number of certified Coxswains, Boat Crewmembers, and PWC Operators we have in the system at the end of the fiscal year. We are not funded to provide PPE to trainees. Obviously, we still manage to issue gear to trainees, but must strictly account for excess gear out in the field. This is the main driver behind the prohibition on maintaining stocks of extra gear at the Flotilla/Division level. Simply put, we are not funded to keep an extra stock of Anti-exposure coveralls on a facility in case guests want to come out on patrol. The second issue with keeping that stock on hand has to do with keeping the maintenance up to date and ensuring the gear is serviceable. Extra gear on hand means extra work for the FSO-OP.

As far as guests go, they are not required to be outfitted with the same equipment as the boat crew. This standard is the same on the gold side. If there’s time to plan it, then it’s possible to request the gear from DIRAUX with the justification for outfitting a guest with \$2k in government property. Otherwise, have them wear a CG-Approved Type III PFD. Non-auxiliary guests are not required to have the equipment listed in E.14.a of the AUXOPS manual on their PFD. That being said, I’m happy to equip you with whistles and lights as funds are available. Please remember guests must be approved before the sortie by the OIA.

Trainees should be equipped with the same gear as the certified crew. Flotilla Commanders/FSO-MA/FSO-OP may request gear be issued to trainees via the d11auxnorthern@uscg.mil email address. Trainees in AP status will not be issued PPE.

Flotilla Commanders may request gear for AP members on a case by case basis, but be prepared to make a compelling case. A member interested in “trying out” boat operations sounds like a Trainee to me. If you have members in that situation, email the d11auxnorthern@uscg.mil address and request gear for them. We’ll get the bag together and workout delivery. If the Trainee goes out a couple of times and decides that boat ops aren’t for them, FC’s are empowered to reclaim the equipment and work out getting it back to DIRAUX.

That’s it for this month. I hope to see many of you at NACON in August. I’m bringing my surfboard down, ready to challenge all comers.

See you out on the water, think safety...
BOSN J

BUSY YEAR FOR THE QUALIFICATION EXAMINERS (QEs):

Last year, by June 1st, our District had a total of 43 check rides by our Qualification Examiners. This year, as of June 1st, QEs have completed 63 check rides.

Please be reminded to have your list of candidates for an OPEX in to me at least 3 or more weeks in advance of the event. Please have your IS officer verify the candidate has all the task requirements in AUXDATA and the FC has signed their qualification book.

DIRAUX STAFF, HOURS, EMAIL, PHONE NUMBERS:

Reminder, please make a prior appointments, at DIRAUX, before traveling many miles only to find the need you are looking for is not available that day.

<http://diraux.d11nuscgaux.info/StaffOfficeHours.htm>

REQUESTS FOR AUX FACILITIES:

It has been noticed that AuxFac have, on occasion, been asked to be platforms for PAs, club videographers, safety Dive Teams, and tow boats to remove damaged participating racers from the race area. Doing so without OIA approval transfers all liability to the facility coxswain and owner.

We are not allowed to provide platforms to assist the presenters in the operation of boat races and parades, only to assist in protecting the boating public with Safety Zones etc.

REMINDERS:

- **LAND MOBILE PATROLS:** CDR Sumrok reiterated that Land Mobile Patrols (LMPs) must follow the same procedure in requesting orders as surface facilities. Unless a LMP is specifically requested by an OIA, it will be non-reimbursable.
- **SEQUESTRATION:**
Do not comment to the media re sequestration!
- **ALL COXSWAIN & CREW PLEASE REVIEW:**
With upcoming summer events, (Americas Cup Races and other events), please review procedures and policies as they relate to regattas, boat races and parades found in Chapter 2 of the Auxiliary Boat Crew Seamanship Manual COMDTINST M16114.5C September 2003
- **WHEN A QE IS ON BOARD:**

Please do not list the QE as a member of your crew. Only list his/her name in the comments section of your orders. The QE's time will be captured in AUXDATA under a different mission. When underway with a Qualification Examiner it is important to remember the entire crew is evaluated, not just the candidates. Coxswains be certain your crew is in proper uniform and PPE.

- **ALWAYS BE POLITE TO THE BOATING PUBLIC:**
To the boating public always be professional, polite and remember: **We are not Law Enforcement!!** We can “kindly” remind but never threaten.

AMERICA’S CUP (AC) AND ADDITIONAL SUMMER ACTIVITIES:

With the CG Sequestration cuts the Auxiliary is being called on for more hours on the water. We have need for more boats for America’s Cup and other activities, so please consider signing up for more patrol time for these events. For America’s Cup scheduling please contact Linda Vetter with your availability.

AUXINFO DATA – JAN TO JUNE 3, 2013											
Mission Hours as values	Div 01	Div 03	Div 04	Div 05	Div 06	Div 07	Div 08	Div 10	Div 11	Div 12	Sector San Francisco
AUXMP - Marine Patrols (01a,01b,02,03,22a,54a,55a)	780.10	1,417.10	294.00	1,280.30	480.70	1,186.90	355.40	141.40	194.50	216.50	6,346.90
GOVSUP - Government Agency Support (41,42,43)	0.00	37.50	0.00	12.80	0.00	0.00	11.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	61.70
SAR - Search And Rescue (23,24)	9.00	24.90	0.00	24.10	4.00	12.40	8.40	0.20	0.00	0.00	83.00
All Missions	789.10	1,479.50	294.00	1,317.20	484.70	1,199.30	375.20	141.60	194.50	216.50	6,491.60

OPS CURRENCY TRAINING & PAST CAPTAIN’S TRAINING FAIR:

The Past Captain’s Training Fair will be upon us soon. Please check the available Training Fair classes as well as your personal needs to stay current and take advantage of the excellent training offered.

Listed on the OPS Surface PageWEB (<http://ops.d11nuscgaux.info/operations.html>) are the required annual workshops for this District. One Hour TCT, OPS Workshop and also offered is a Power Point for the AUXDATA ORDER MANGEMENT program. All can be given at a Flotilla Level, just be certain your IS Officer inputs the TCT & OPS Workshops into AUXDATA. Old story, “The Job Is Not Finished Until The Paper Work Is Done”.

OPS OPTREX/OPEX CALENDAR;

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

OPERATIONS EVENT CALENDAR

AS OF: 10 June 2013

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT	LOCATION AND POINT OF CONTACT
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

PHOTOS WANTED;

We now have a photo bulletin board in the DIRAUX Office. Please send /email current photos so we can print and show the walk-in traffic what we are up to.



Respectfully, Gail

