



**Homeland Security**

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

*Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah*



Date: April 2014  
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 – PPE & TILLEY HATS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AGAIN  
MARINE APPS FOR YOUR PHONES  
WORKSHOPS 2014 OPS/TCT INFORMATION  
D11N 2014 UNDERWAY HOURS  
OPS CALENDAR

**OTO CORNER – PPE & TILLEY HATS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AGAIN:**

Greetings Shipmates, hoping more April showers come our way this month. By now, we should all be gearing up for a busy and productive patrol season.

**PPE Inspections**

I've noticed several flotillas missed their semi-annual PPE inspections in the past couple of months. Those of you that missed your semi-annual inspections need to log all of the affected equipment "out of service", perform the build-up inspection, and then log the gear "back in service" once the inspections are complete. FSO-OP's should be reporting this status to the FC on a regular basis, at least quarterly per our policy; no one should be taken by surprise on this. PPE, including personally-owned gear that has not been maintained per the standard cannot be worn on patrol. You will be at risk if you patrol with unserviceable gear.

To aid in planning your inspections for the Type III, BCSV, AEC, Float Coat, please refer to this guide:

| Last Inspection: | Semi-annual due in: |
|------------------|---------------------|
| January          | July                |
| February         | August              |
| March            | September           |
| April            | October             |
| May              | November            |
| June             | December            |

As a reminder, PLB tests are required to be completed monthly and must be logged as such.

We had a shipmate get knocked overboard during training last month. His gear performed as designed because it was being properly maintained. I'm available to assist as needed, but at this point, individual Flotillas need to take ownership of their safety programs and get caught up with the maintenance program.

**Updated Maintenance Job Aids**

Revised PPE maintenance job aids should be posted by our webmaster in the coming days. I emailed copies to all FSO-OP's as well. These job aids are the result of a collaborative effort between D11N, D8WR, and D9WR. The job aids are designed to supplement the posted USCG Maintenance Procedure Cards (MPC's) for the required

equipment. The job aid simplifies the language and process and is handy to refer to for your normal semi-annual inspections. Should you come across a discrepancy, refer back to the official MPC for guidance and procedures. We are working to simplify this program on a national level.

### **Training Outside Agencies**

One of Admiral Papp's guiding principles is, "Strengthen Partnerships". You are encouraged to forge strong relationships with partner maritime or public safety organizations in your areas of operations. Please work through your OIA in those instances where local agencies request your provide training to them. The guidance I received from CGHQ(BSX-1) is Auxiliary Instructors may provide training to outside agencies from any approved PE course. In most cases, you prohibited from developing a syllabus independent of the approved PE courses. Translation: Auxiliary instructors should not be teaching assistance towing or Search and Rescue procedures to outside agencies. There is an allowance for one-time training when the Operational Commander (OIA) responds to a request for training from an outside agency and determines that CG AUX resources are in the best position to assist, such as the Lake Powell OPTREX. Both parties must understand that the Auxiliary cannot "certify" other agencies in assistance towing and SAR operations. Those agencies seeking certification and credentialing in those areas should seek out the approved NASBLA BOAT program.

Please note, there is a difference between conducting joint training with a local fire department while conducting an approved patrol and requesting orders solely to go out and conduct training for an OGA. The safe play is to include in your comments in AOMS precisely what you wish to do on your patrol. From my perspective, regular familiarization training with partner agencies is a good thing. I'd draw the line at a partner agency counting on the Auxiliary to be its primary training provider in maritime SAR. Again, OIA visibility and concurrence are key. You can always email me or give me a call if you have questions on this topic.

### **Tilley Hat**

**The Tilley hat is again available through the Auxiliary Nation Supply Center and now is made out of the same material that our ODUs are.** I contacted BSX-1 about whether or not the "Boonie Hat" authorized in the Uniform Regulations Manual is available for Auxiliary members and acceptable for wear during authorized activities. The problem comes from the wording of the Uniform Regulations which says the Boonie Hat cannot be worn in situations where CG members interact with the public. Since interacting with the boating public is Job #1 for you folks, I'd suggest you purchase the Tilley Hat from ANSC vice ordering the Boonie Hat from the UDC.

### **Gear Configuration**

I scan all pictures sent to DIRAUX for proper uniform and PPE compliance. I'm surprised to still be seeing pictures of members not wearing Boat Crew Survival Vests (BCSV) or wearing their vests with the strobe light stowed on the pile tape or outside of the pocket. The required MPC clearly outlines how the gear in the BCSV shall be configure, please don't deviate. You are allowed to carry extra safety gear or personal items in the open pockets of the BCSV, but please consider what you are carrying and why. Nearly every time I go out with Auxiliary crews, I see one or two members carrying VHF radios in the pockets of their BCSV even when the facility has two installed VHF radios. Ask yourself if it's really necessary to have two radios monitoring VHF-16 or your working frequency. I always carry a hand held VHF in my bag, but not on my person. It's there should the installed radios fail, or I need to step over to a disabled vessel. I don't like it in my vest or on my belt because that's just one more expensive item that can fall over the side.

That's it for April. Be safe, train hard, and get ready for a busy summer.

### **MARINE APPS FOR YOUR PHONES:**

Kudos to Brenda and Robert Belongie (sp) for the below link from the Power Squardon. They gave an excellent presentation at DTRAIN for marine applications for our phones. If you come across others please let me know and they will be shared. Majority of the apps with this link seem to be with IPHones, but some of us are still in the dark ages with other working systems. <http://www.usps.org/eddept/misc/apps.htm>

**WORKSHOPS 2014 OPS/TCT INFORMATION:**

Belos is the link to the OPS & TCT required workshops. Remember these are designed for Flotilla or Division presentation, the Workshop Attendance Sheet (Form 7039, <http://forms.cgaux.org/archive/a7039.pdf>) needs to be filled out and the members attending entered into AUXDATA by your IS Officer. If not in AUXDATA you did not take the Workshops. <http://ops.d11nusecgaux.info/operations.html> The effort is never completed until the paper work is done.

**AOM REQUIREMENT FOR ALL ORDER REQUESTS IN SECTOR SAN FRANCISCO**

This was in last month’s report but have had several phone calls and if the below information is not in the AOM comments section the Patrol Area Coordinators cannot Activate your orders.

Please note the attached new requirements when putting in for patrol orders in AOM. Please enter the necessary info in the Comments sections of your requests to have them approved from now on.

When requesting orders please provide in the comments section:

1. Patrol Intentions: (purpose of patrol, requestor where appropriate)
2. Radio Guard: (what station or entity, what channel)
3. Other AUX: (other boats/LMs you will be working with)
4. Other CG/OGA: (others you will be working with)
5. Operator Info: (coxswain name and cell phone nr.)
6. Time mission starts to time mission ends: (target times)

**D11N 2014 UNDERWAY HOURS:**

[Cube questions should be directed to Harry Schoepe, BC-ISL@cgaux.org. Cube last refreshed on Sunday, April 06, 2014.](#)

[All Missions][Sector San Francisco][All Facilities][All Unit Locations][U/W - Underway][CY 2014][Active][All Positions][All Operations][All Claimants]MEASURES

| Mission Hours as values                            | 11NR - Div 01 | 11NR - Div 03 | 11NR - Div 04 | 11NR - Div 05 | 11NR - Div 06 | 11NR - Div 08 | 11NR - Div 11 | 11NR - Div 12 | Sector San Francisco |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| AUXMP - Marine Patrols (01a,01b,02,03,22a,54a,55a) | 280.50        | 202.20        | 7.60          | 563.40        | 365.70        | 189.00        | 46.90         | 53.70         | 1,709.00             |
| GOVSUP - Government Agency Support (41,42,43)      | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0.00          | 12.00         | 6.00          | 0.00          | 0.00          | 18.00                |
| MS - Marine Safety                                 | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0.00          | 13.80         | 0.00          | 0.00          | 13.80                |
| SAR - Search And Rescue (23,24)                    | 1.00          | 12.80         | 0.00          | 2.80          | 23.80         | 3.60          | 0.00          | 1.00          | 45.00                |
| All Missions                                       | 281.50        | 215.00        | 7.60          | 566.20        | 401.50        | 212.40        | 46.90         | 54.70         | 1,785.80             |

For flyers, regarding these events please go to the [District Calendar](#):

**2014**  
**OPERATIONS OPEX/OPTREX EVENT CALENDAR**

|              |                               |  |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|
| APR 12       | DIV 5 – TRAINING ONLY, NO QEs | Contact: <a href="#">Curtis Han</a>                                      |
| APR 30-MAY 4 | Flotilla 39 OPTREX            | Contact: <a href="#">Carl Pierce</a>                                     |
| MAY 3-4      | Division 10 OPEX              | Lake Kaweah<br>Contact: <a href="#">Rod Rollins</a>                      |
| MAY 10       | Division 1 OPTREX             | Contact: <a href="#">William Burns</a>                                   |
| JUN 7        | Division 5                    | Contact: <a href="#">Curtis Han</a>                                      |
| AUG 2-3      | Division 6 OPTREX             | Santa Cruz, Contact <a href="#">Wally Smith</a>                          |
| AUG 8-9th    | Division 7                    | Utah -   |
| AUG 23-24    | Division 11                   | Lake Tahoe, <a href="#">Linda Haynes</a>                                 |
| SEP 19-20    | Flotilla 88 OPTREX            | Braitos Marina, Clear Lake CA<br>Contact: <a href="#">Bruce Rogerson</a> |
| OCT 11-12    | Division 10 OPTREX            | Millerton CA<br>Contact: <a href="#">Rod Rollins</a>                     |
| OCT 17-19    | Flotilla 3-10 OPTREX          | Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta<br>Contact: <a href="#">Dean LaChapelle</a> |
| SEP 13-14    | Flotilla 5-5 OPTREX           | Bodega Bay, <a href="#">Wil Sumner</a>                                   |

**DIRAUX CURRENT OFFICE HOURS:**

Director of Auxiliary Office Hours: 07:30 to 15:30 M-Th.

ID card and New Member processing M-W 07:30 to 13:00, by appointment only.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) issue, by appointment only.

Tuesdays are our designated "Auxiliary Tuesday" walk-in days when most of the staff is available for customer service.

All services on Fridays are by appointment only.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail